

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. X.—NEW SERIES, No. 224.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1850.

[PRICE 6d.]

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.
THE NEXT HALF-YEARLY ELECTION
will take place in APRIL, when Twenty Children will be admitted. Forms of application and particulars may be obtained at the Office daily, between Ten and Four. No application can be received later than the 1st of March.
JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.
Offices, 19, Gresham-street.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.
THE COMMITTEE of this Institution (for the Board and Education of the Sons of Congregational Ministers) beg to present its urgent claims to the liberality of the religious public. It is now about £200 in debt,—arising from its ordinary income being less than its necessary expenditure, and not a single collection in its favour having been received during the current financial year! The Committee have been under the necessity of disposing of the small amount in the public Funds recently bequeathed to them; and are now unable to discharge the masters' salaries, due at Christmas last, together with several tradesmen's bills, &c.
No fewer than 283 children have been admitted into the establishment, GRATUITOUSLY, since its foundation in 1811, and 46 pupils are now in the School. Already there are ten candidates on the list for the election in April next; and the Committee are anxious to admit as many as possible to enjoy the advantages of the Institution. THERE WOULD BE VACANCIES FOR ALL, if the Finances would justify their admission; but this must depend on the liberality of the public during the ensuing month. Life Subscribers of Ten Guineas, and Annual Subscribers of One Guinea, are entitled to vote at each Half-yearly Election.
Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, W. A. Hankey, Esq., Fenchurch-street; by the Rev. George Rose, Secretary, Grange-road, Brompton; or by the Rev. Thomas James, Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, Finsbury.

TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION.
THE SIXTH MONTHLY TEMPERANCE MEETING in EXETER HALL will be held on MONDAY EVENING next, March 4. Subject:—"Intoxicating liquors not essential to health or comfort; and their entire abandonment promotive of the physical, intellectual, social and religious condition of the community."—Speakers: P. W. Perfit, Esq., J. Taylor, Esq., of Birmingham; D. D. Gourley, Esq., M.D., George Cruikshank, Esq., and Carl Olof Brink, Esq., LL.B., Secretary to the Royal Board of Prisons in Sweden; in consequence of whose visit to this country, an Address to the King of Sweden, on the subject of the Temperance Reformation, will be presented for adoption. Chair to be taken by JOHN CASSELL, Esq., at half-past six.—Admission to the Body of the Hall, free; to the Platform by ticket, price 1s., to be had of the Treasurer, 80, Fenchurch-street, or at the door of the Hall.

MARRIAGE OF A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.
AT a Meeting of the General Body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations residing in and near the Cities of London and Westminster, held in the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, February 25, 1850, the Rev. THOMAS JAMES in the chair, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—
Moved by the Rev. GEO. SMITH; seconded by the Rev. F. TRESTRAIL; and supported by the Rev. ROBERT INDEPATIL, M.A.:—
1. That this body, while partially admitting the force of those considerations which appear to some to render it inexpedient to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister, is yet of opinion that it is not contrary to anything contained in the Word of God; that such marriage is not only in itself perfectly allowable, but may often be the best which an individual may contract; and that, while no human law, secular or ecclesiastical, ought to forbid it—such enactments being violations of civil or religious liberty—this body believes that the abrogation of all such unnecessary and unjust obstructions to individual freedom of action, would at once promote happiness and virtue by affording relief to the conscientious and moral, and by preventing clandestine and criminal connexions.
Moved by the Rev. R. W. OVERBURY and seconded by the Rev. H. B. JULLIA:—
2. That, on these and other grounds, this body do petition Parliament in favour of the Bill now before the House of Commons, entitled, "A Bill to amend and alter an Act passed in the 5th and 6th years of the Reign of King William the Fourth, so far as relates to marriages within certain of the prohibited degrees of affinity."
Moved by the Rev. T. BINNEY, and seconded by the Rev. J. H. HINTON, M.A.:—
3. That the preceding resolutions be advertised by the Secretary.
(Signed) THOMAS JAMES, Chairman.
WILLIAM GROSER, Secretary.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.
THE INDEPENDENT BOARD.
AT a MEETING specially convened and held on TUESDAY, the 19th of FEBRUARY, 1850, at the KING'S-HEAD, POULTNEY.
It was Resolved unanimously,—
"1st. That, in the judgment of this Board, there is no reason, either in Holy Scripture, or in sound morals, against a widower marrying his deceased wife's sister or niece; that they therefore deprecate any legal provisions on the subject, and especially they object to the present state of the law in relation to it, as at once most unwise, enshrining, and unjust.
"2nd. That this Board do forthwith petition Parliament on this subject, and that they earnestly recommend that petitions should be prepared and forwarded from the several congregations with which they are connected.
ANDREW REED, D.D., Chairman.
H. S. SEABORN, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING ASSURERS.

INTENDING LIFE ASSURERS are respectfully invited to compare the Principles, Rates, and whole Provisions of the
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Agent and Secretary for London.

*. The Twelfth Annual Report is now published, and may be had on application.

THE GREAT FIRE AT ASHWELL.

AT a MEETING of the CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ASHWELL, HERTS, held Feb. 18th, 1850.

It was unanimously Resolved,—

1. That, in the recent conflagration which has destroyed our House of Prayer, the residence and other effects of our Minister, the residences and property of several of our members, as well as of our neighbours, we recognise the permissive providence of God, bow to his sovereign will, and earnestly desire that this calamity may be overruled to the Divine glory, and to our increasing devotedness to the service of the Great Head of the Church.
2. That an immediate and strenuous effort be made, in humble reliance on the Divine blessing, to rebuild our Place of Worship, and that, as a preparatory step, the following gentlemen be respectfully requested to act as a Committee of co-operation with the Pastor and Deacons of the Church:—
William Hollick Nash, Esq., Royston, Treasurer.
Rev. William G. Barrett, Royston.
Rev. Robert E. Forsyth, Royston.
Rev. Frederick W. Heathcote, Hitchin.
Rev. William Milne, Baldock.
Rev. Andrew C. Wright, Melbourn.
Rev. John Harcourt, Basingbourn.
Rev. Joseph Stockbridge, Morden.
Rev. James Mirams, Chisill.
Rev. Henry Trigge, Thetford.
Rev. John Besly, Buntingford.
Rev. James Reading, St. Alban's.
Rev. William A. Hurdall, Bishop's Stortford.
Rev. John H. Bowhay, Hertford.
Mr. William F. Butler, Royston.
Mr. Thomas Titchmarsh, Royston.
3. That the foregoing resolutions be advertised in the *Patriot*, *British Banner*, and *Nonconformist* newspapers; also in the *Hertford Mercury*, and the *Cambridge Independent Press*.

Signed on behalf of the Church and Congregation,

DAVID RICHARDSON, Pastor.
GEORGE PITY, Deacon.
ISAAC PICKING, Deacon.

*. The Chapel was erected just twenty years ago, at the cost of about £750. The greater part of this large sum was raised by the people themselves. Many who then gave liberally are now among the greatest losers by the late destructive fire, and are therefore unable to help in the restoration of the ruined sanctuary. To restore the place to its former condition, it is believed that no less than £500 will be required. Estimates will be immediately obtained, which will show the amount needed.
Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the members of the Committee; also at the offices of the forenamed newspapers; also by John George Fordham, Esq., banker, Royston; Messrs. Sharples, Exton, Lucas, and Co., bankers, Hitchin; John Foster, Esq., Bigglesware; and by the Rev. Arthur Tidman, Mission-house, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, London.

EAST OF SCOTLAND MALLEABLE IRON COMPANY.
NOTICE is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the East of Scotland Malleable Iron Company, will be held within the Town-house of DUNFERMLINE, upon THURSDAY, the 22nd day of AUGUST next, 1850, at Twelve o'clock Noon, for the purpose of considering a proposal to dissolve the said Company, and to sell and realize the whole Property and Estate, and funds and effects of the Company, and finally to wind-up the Company's affairs, all in terms of the 37th Clause of the Contract of Co-partnership of the said Company.

By order of the Directors,
JAMES INGLIS, Chairman.
JOHN DRYSDALE, Interim Sec.

TO DRAPERS.

WANTED, an Assistant in a Dissenting Family. Unexceptionable References will be required.
Address, J. T. STOCKBURN, Kettering.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW for MARCH

Contains:—
1. Brown's Tragedy of Galileo Galilei.
2. The London Prisons.
3. Moral History of Woman.
4. Episodes of Insect Life.
5. The Hebrew People and Monarchy.
6. Buckingham's National Evils and Practical Remedies.
7. A Pilgrimage to Utopia; or, the Autobiography of a Visionary.
Events of the Month, Brief Notices, &c. &c.
*. The Number also contains a Reply to the Charges of the BRITISH BANNER of February 20th.

WARD & Co., 27, Paternoster-row.

This day is published, price 1s.; and by post 1s. 6d.,

VINDICATION of their PASTOR and THEMSELVES from the CHARGES of the Rev. S. T. PORTER, in his recently-published Letter; including Dr. Wardlaw's Statement, and other Documents. By THE DEACONS of WEST GEORGE-STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.
Glasgow: GEORGE GALLIE. London: JOHN SNOW, Paternoster-row.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY. SPECIAL STATEMENT.

THE COMMITTEE of the British and Foreign School Society having greatly ENLARGED and IMPROVED their NORMAL SCHOOL, and otherwise met the many claims made upon them of late years for extended effort, are obliged, in consequence of the heavy expenditure in which they have been involved, again to APPEAL to the PUBLIC for ADDITIONAL AID.

Their annual expenditure now greatly exceeds their annual income; a deficiency of £1,200 must be immediately met; and a great increase of annual subscribers will be required in order to justify further extension.

The Committee are happy to state that the loss experienced by the secession of friends who took opposite views to their own in relation to Government aid, has not been so large as was at first apprehended; while the assistance received from the Committee of Council has not been accompanied by any of the evils which those friends were led to anticipate.

Eight years have now elapsed since the Society received the donation of £5,000 from the Government towards the creation of the new Normal School, and six years since the grant of £750 a year was first made; and the experience of the Committee justifies them in assuring their friends that, with the exception of the painful differences already referred to, the inspection of the Committee of Council, and the aid received from Government, has been most decidedly a benefit to the Society. During the entire period the visits of the inspectors have been welcomed both in the model and local schools; the strictest regard to the principles of the Society has always been observed by them, and in no one case, so far as the Committee are aware, has the slightest disposition been shown to interfere with the management, or to entrench on the independence, either of the local schools or of the Society.

The Committee have great pleasure in referring to the extended Report, on the day-schools of the Society, prepared by Joseph Fletcher, Esq., one of the inspectors, and published in the Minutes of the Committee of Council for the year 1846. Its perusal, they are sure, will gratify the friends of the Institution, while it will satisfy all candid readers that the Society is every way worthy of support.

They now earnestly and confidently appeal to the friends of education for assistance, for liberal donations, and especially for new or enlarged annual subscriptions.

Their desire is to be greatly instrumental in extending the blessings of scriptural education to every neglected district of the land.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

Borough-road, February 15, 1850.

Donations and Subscriptions will be thankfully received by Samuel Gurney, Esq., the Treasurer, at 65, Lombard-street; by Hanbury and Co., bankers, 60, Lombard-street; and at the Society's House, Borough-road.

SUNDAY NOT THE SABBATH.

Just published, price 1s.; post free, 1s. 6d.,

AN EXAMINATION OF THE AUTHORITY for a CHANGE of the WEEKLY SABBATH at the Resurrection of Christ; proving that the practice of the Church, in substituting the First Day of the Week for the Appointed Seventh Day, is Unsanctioned by the New Testament Scriptures. By JAMES A. BAIG, Author of "A Connected View of the Scriptural Evidence of Christ's Speedy Return," &c.

Glasgow: Published by the Author, 35, Argyll-arcade. Edinburgh: C. ZEIGLER. London: JAMES NISBET and Co.

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SHARPE'S LONDON MAGAZINE for MARCH, price 1s., with Two Elegant Steel Plates, will contain:—

Music in its Relation to Religion. By the Rev. J. CUMMING, D.D.
Lewis Arundel. By FRANK FAIRLEIGH.
Sydney Smith and his Writings.
Behorah's Diary. By the Author of "Mary Powell."
Pirates of the Indian Archipelago.
Utility of Useless Things.
Reviews:—Gillman's Literary Portraits.—The Mediterranean Sea.—The Prison World of London.

London: A. HALL, VIRTUE and Co., 25, Paternoster-row.

Just published, price 6d.,

THE BRITISH CHURCHES in relation to the BRITISH PEOPLE; being a Review of Mr. Miall's Lectures, with a Chapter of Additional Remedial Measures, designed to develop the means of quickly and thoroughly adapting the British Churches to the British People. By D. KING.

London: Published by W. HORSELL, Aldine-chambers, 13, Paternoster-row.

Now ready, price 1s. 6d.,

AN EXAMINATION INTO THE PAST AND PRESENT CHARACTER OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

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A LETTER TO THE CHURCH meeting in the WEST GEORGE-STREET (Dr. Wardlaw's), GLASGOW. With an Appendix, containing all the Facts and Documents. By their late Pastor, S. T. PORTER.

London: BENJAMIN L. GREEN, 12, Paternoster-row.

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London: W. STRANER, JUN., Paternoster-row. Birmingham: MASON and Co. Shrewsbury: DRAYTON.

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Do. 1841	1,569,570	55,536	153,329
Do. 1845	2,134,381	76,111	295,197
Do. 1849	3,067,376	114,106	496,555

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THOMAS BURR, Secretary.

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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

A WAKEFUL EYE TO THE MAIN CHANCE.

WHATEVER faults may be laid to the charge of those who govern the "Church of England, as by law established," it cannot, at any rate, be imputed to them that they are distrustful of the power of money, or that they willingly, or inconsiderately, part with it when once possessed. The Establishment never foregoes a pecuniary advantage—never abandons, either to policy or to principle, a claim to cash which has been once admitted. The history of State Churches, all the world over, has been a history of acquisition and accumulation. In this country the rule has been strikingly verified. The very terms by which several of the Church's exactions are to this day designated, prove them to have originated in spontaneous zeal. The process by which voluntary benevolence gradually passes into the shape of legal liability has been something in this wise. Veneration, sometimes religious, oftener superstitious, gratifies itself, in the first instance, by a substantial offering to the agent or instrument of spiritual good. The example naturally produces imitators. What has been done by one person, and for once, is soon done by many, and periodically repeated. On the side of the recipient, expectation is awakened—on the part of the donor, a habit is formed; what was once an offering, is made, in due time, a demand—and an incident, steadily occurring, grows up into a custom. As years roll on, and clerical power increases, that custom is guarded and enforced by all the sanctions of ecclesiastical pretence. But ecclesiastical pretence fades away under the light of increasing knowledge, and excommunication, which was once formidable, ceases to stir even a passing fear. Law steps in to supply the force which spiritual censure has happily lost: and thus, all that has been gained of wealth, or the means of it, by considerations which originally addressed themselves to the conscience or the heart, is secured in perpetuity by the application of civil authority; and where the people gave an inch the Church has taken an ell.

We might easily produce an indefinite variety of illustrations, bearing upon these remarks, but we prefer confining ourselves to those which are presented to us by passing events. Most of our readers will be aware that the Board of Health have put forth a draft of a project for the prohibition of intramural interments, and for providing burial-places at a reasonable distance from our great cities and populous towns. In this plan, the burial-fee of the clergy, considered as a source of income, are carefully attended to, so that what brings advantage to the community shall not be permitted to inflict loss upon them. It would appear, at first sight, somewhat strange that an order of men, amply provided for out of the general resources of the country, to perform certain religious functions on behalf of their parishioners, should, nevertheless, receive payment from every one of them who

avails himself of the offices of the Church, and that christening, churching, marrying, and burying, should constitute occasions for demanding a clerical fee. It will appear stranger still, that this practice, which the canons describe as simony, and accordingly forbid, should be actually enforced by the provisions of statute-law. The clergy, having shamelessly violated one of their own rules, plead their right to continue that violation, and when it is interfered with, claim compensation from the public. We pay for their services—we pay also for their sins. They have been so long accustomed to haunt the tomb's mouth, and say, "Stand, and deliver," that, albeit the custom is denounced by their own code of regulations, law cannot interfere with it without voting them an equivalent. The collection of "black mail" is made the ground-work for the exaction of legal fees.

The Australian Government Bill, recently submitted to the Legislature by Lord John Russell, after a loud flourish of trumpets, affords another instance of the watchful eye which the Church has to the main chance. For some time past, a considerable portion of the revenues of these colonies has, under Downing-street dictation, been appropriated to "public worship." The object of the bill being professedly to give the colonists powers of self-government, one might naturally have imagined that public provision, out of colonial resources, for the maintenance of religious institutions, would have been left, as many other things are, to the option of the colonists themselves. This, however, will not suit the temper of a State Church. A clause, therefore, is inserted in the bill, increasing the former provision by £4,000, and forbidding any diminution of the charge, except with the consent of her Majesty in Council. What may be the state of opinion and feeling in Australia in reference to this matter, what discord this compulsory enactment may excite, what injurious reflections it may cast upon the character of Christianity, what seeds of future agitation it may sow, what a harvest of discontent it may hereafter bring—all this is nothing, in the estimation of ecclesiastical authorities, in comparison of an abandonment of a money claim once advanced and recognised. And, whereas the apostle Paul could appeal with confidence to his converts, "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel," his successors, as they style themselves, might reverse the appeal, and take, as the sole foundation for their proceedings, the scriptural maxim, "Money is a defence." They surrender nothing. They hold with unflinching tenacity their "vested interests," both domestic and colonial. Change, if it is to have their sanction, must be change in the direction of from less to more. They never go back. They make good, for all time, whatever they acquire; and their actions, not uncharitably interpreted, yield a meaning after this sort, "I seek not you, but yours."

Curious it is, too, to notice the Church's belief in the money power, as it shows itself in the distribution of clerical incomes. Thus £1,000 a year is held to be a sum greatly curtailing the influence of its possessor in comparison of £1,500 or £2,000. In the House of Lords, on Monday night, certain amendments were moved in committee on the Ecclesiastical Commissioners Bill, to annul previous enactments, the supposed effect of which was, to limit the income of deans to £1,000 a year; and an attempt was made, under cover of giving greater efficiency to those ecclesiastical functionaries, to allow them incomes ranging up to the mark of two thousand pounds a year. It is true, the move was defeated by a majority of two votes, but it clearly indicates the mind of the Church. Snug places for gentlemen are more important than religious instruction to the people. Dignitaries must be provided for, whatever may become of the working clergy. There is a cry for more bishops—a cry which, we cannot doubt, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners will regard with favour. But the office, it would seem, cannot in these days be worthily filled, without an exorbitant income. In the eyes of our aristocracy, a poor bishop would be an intolerable offence—a desecration of sacred office. No scion of nobility could serve God in

the episcopate, at least in such a way as to do honour to his calling, under some £4,000 a year.

We have reason to hope that the sordid spirit now uppermost in the Church, is exciting in the minds of intelligent and pious laymen, a salutary reaction. Some of them, we think, begin to perceive that the system which they once deemed sacred is, after all, but Mammon under a religious cloak. Fees, stipends, vested rights, and such things, are perpetually found to constitute the insurmountable obstacles in the way of all improvement, sanitary, social, and political. Places, worth a gentleman's while in a worldly sense, are more cared for than spheres of usefulness. Selfishness is everywhere predominant. Voluntary self-sacrifice is neither sanctioned nor approved. Such a system may last so long as people continue to regard it as sacred. Its chief men, however, are displaying its real character—and when the Church falls, as fall it will, whatever may be due to the agency of the Anti-state-church Association, still more will be attributable to the grasping spirit of the bishops and their clergy. The establishment will be found, according to the true dictum of the Rev. Sydney Smith, to have "died of dignity."

THE ANTISTATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

MACCLESFIELD.—A public meeting was held at Townley-street Chapel, Macclesfield, on the 19th instant. The platform was occupied by Mr. Rathbone, the Rev. S. Bowen, the Rev. G. Maddeys, the Rev. Mr. Harris (Wesleyan Association), Mr. G. Duncalf, and Mr. Josiah Hankinson, together with the deputation, consisting of J. Kingsley, Esq., the Rev. J. Fletcher, and the Rev. Mr. Macbeth. It was understood that application had been made to the mayor, for the use of the Town-hall in which to hold the meeting, and that his worship should preside on the occasion, which request was declined. Mr. Rathbone occupied the chair—and in addition to the deputation, the Revs. Messrs. Maddeys, Macbeth, Bowen, and Harris, and Messrs. Duncalf and Hankinson, addressed the meeting. The Rev. S. Bowen, in moving the appointment of a committee to promote the objects of the association, remarked that the society belonged to no sect; it was simply a "hands-off society."

CONGLETON, CHESHIRE.—"Early last week," says the *Macclesfield Courier*, in an elaborate attempt to ridicule the entire proceedings, "a placard posted on the walls of the town, announced that a public meeting would be held in the Assembly Room, in support of the Anti-state-church Association, on Monday, the 18th instant, and that the Mayor would take the chair on the occasion. A deputation from the central society, consisting of the Rev. Mr. Fletcher and John Kingsley, Esq., B.A., were to address the meeting. At the foot of the placard was an assurance, that the object of the society was not hostile to the Church of England, but rather to increase its usefulness, by disencumbering it of State control, &c. &c. According to the notification, the Mayor, Mr. Hadfield, took the chair at the meeting at seven o'clock. The room was soon quite filled, partly with the female and other members of various Dissenting congregations, but chiefly with the class calling themselves 'Chartist and Social Reformers.' On the platform were the two anti-church exhibitors above mentioned, the Rev. Mr. Moore, of Mill-street Chapel; the Rev. — Taylor, of Zion Chapel; the Rev. — Prosser, of the Primitive Chapel; and Mr. Macbeth, of the Potteries. Among the inhabitants present were Mr. Warrington, Mr. Andrew, Mr. Radley (foreman to Messrs. Chadcock and Son), and Messrs. Beresford, W. Booth, R. Sheldon, Weddington, Thomas Pickford, Cherry, Gosling, Cumberlidge, &c. The Mayor opened the proceedings by saying, that a respectable deputation had called upon him to request the use of the room for the purpose of the meeting; and as the question to be discussed was one on which many great and good men both in and out of the Established Church were divided in opinion, he did not think he should have been justified in withholding the use of the room for the occasion, nor did he think it was incompatible with his character as mayor that he had consented to preside, for the purpose of keeping order—that being his sole object; and he was glad to be able to say, that the inhabitants of Congleton were always

orderly [hear, and a laugh]. As to the question itself—the separation of the Church from the State—he considered it was an open one, and his mind was not made up upon it. His worship then took up the placard calling the meeting, which he stated that he had not seen on the walls, and called on the town-clerk to read it. Mr. Latham having performed that office, the Mayor called on the Rev. Mr. Fletcher (one of the lecturers) to move the first resolution. Our contemporary does not give either his speech, or that of the Rev. R. Macbeth, Mr. Kingsley, and Rev. R. Moore, who followed. The topics of them only are adverted to, with a running comment, intended to damage the effect of the speeches, which it is admitted produced a great impression on the audience. But that our space is too valuable, we might amuse our readers with some specimens of this "ponderous levity." A long letter of comment by a correspondent is appended, written in the same silly strain. The writer is especially sore that "Sir Edmund Antrobers's noble room should have been volunteered," and the presiding of the Mayor promised. "A couple of itinerants, paid for the job, getting their daily livelihood by this particular agitation, and as much personally interested in obtaining the Town Hall gratis, as Signor Blitz or Snape the actor would be!" A correspondent writes, that so crowded was the room that numbers were unable to get in.

BURLEIGH AND STONE.—The deputation attended excellent meetings at these places. At the latter, the meeting was to have been held at the Assembly Room, of the Crown Inn, but the landlord, frightened at the prospect of large numbers and enthusiasm, refused to open his doors, and the people, therefore, had to repair to the Rev. M. Butler's chapel, which was kindly thrown open for them.

WELLINGTON, SALOP.—On Wednesday evening, Feb. 20, a public meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held in the Independent Chapel (the Town Hall having been refused for the occasion), the Rev. J. Nugent in the chair. The Rev. J. Fletcher, of Christchurch, and J. Kingsley, Esq., the deputation from the Executive Committee, severally addressed the meeting. The Rev. Messrs. Tilly, O'Brienshaw, Evans, Shaw, Grainger, and others, were on the platform and took part in the proceedings. The attendance was large and respectable. The attention and interest never seemed to flag, although the meeting was not over until half-past ten o'clock; in fact, the greatest enthusiasm was excited in favour of the cause so ably pleaded. The deputation appear to have given general satisfaction to the friends of voluntary religion.

YORKSHIRE.—Next week the Rev. J. P. Mursell and Mr. Kingsley commence a tour in the West Riding, and will attend meetings at Rotherham on the 4th of March; Sheffield, 5th; Wakefield, 6th; Bradford, 7th; Halifax, 11th; Hull, 12th; York, 13th; and Scarborough, 14th. This week Mr. Kingsley is lecturing at several places in the neighbourhood of Halifax. These meetings, and others to be held prior to the Conference, will afford suitable opportunities for the election of delegates from the inhabitants of the towns generally.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES GOVERNMENT BILL.

The committee of the Anti-state-church Association have addressed the following circular to the liberal members of the House of Commons on the subject of the ecclesiastical grants in the Australian colonies. Mr. Lushington, M.P., has, we find, given notice of his intention to move that the objectionable provision be expunged.

4, Crescent, Blackfriars, Feb. 3, 1850.

SIR,—The committee of the British Anti-state-church Association beg respectfully to call your attention to those provisions of the "Bill for the better government of her Majesty's Australian colonies" which relate to the appropriation of the public revenues for the support of public worship.

On a reference to Clause XVI. and to Part 3, of Schedules (A), (B), and (C), it will be seen that whereas the sum of £30,000 is now appropriated out of the colonial revenues for the support of public worship in New South Wales, it is proposed that, on the erection of the district of Port Phillip (now part of New South Wales) into a separate Colony, to be known as the Colony of Victoria, £28,000 shall be devoted to that object in New South Wales, and £6,000 in the new Colony of Victoria; being an increase of £4,000 for the entire territory. Also, that £15,000 shall continue to be similarly applied in the Colony of Van Dieman's Land. Clause XVII. further provides, that while it shall be lawful for the Colonial Legislatures to alter both the amount and the appropriation of other sums mentioned in the said Schedules respectively, yet that in the case of these ecclesiastical grants, the consent of the Crown shall be required to such alteration.

The committee feel bound to object to the continuance even of existing grants of public money for religious purposes; but, whatever opinion may be entertained on this point, they submit that, any increase of such grants, however small the amount, should be vigorously resisted. A conviction widely prevails, that the principle of supporting religious institutions out of the public purse ought not to be further extended; and these provisions of the bill cannot, therefore, but excite great dissatisfaction, not only in this country, but in the Australian Colonies, where the present system has already occasioned much jealousy and irritation. To this may be added, that the apprehensions of the committee are increased from the occurrence of the following passages

in the Report of the Lords of the Committee of Council for Trade and Plantations, presented May 25, 1849, on which, it is understood, this bill is mainly based:—

Among the appropriations of the public revenues of New South Wales by Parliament, is that of a sum of £30,000 per annum for the support of public worship, it being, however, referred to your Majesty to apportion that fund between the different Christian churches amongst which the colonists are divided. Your Majesty has already determined that this sum shall be distributed between the Churches of England, of Scotland, and of Rome, and the Wesleyan Society.

We are of opinion that the proposed Legislature ought not to possess the unrestricted power of altering the existing arrangements. The vested rights which individual clergymen hold under the New South Wales Constitutional Act ought, we apprehend, to be maintained inviolate. And in the absence of very weighty reasons, clearly and fully established, it would, we think, be inexpedient to deprive any one of the four churches in question of any part of the temporal support to which it is at present entitled under that statute.

We should, therefore, propose to secure to each of the four churches, not for a definite, but for an indefinite period, that share of the common fund which has been assigned to it under the existing arrangement. If, at any future time, the local Legislature of either province should see fit to endow any other church than those four, or to augment the endowment of any one of the four, any such new or augmented endowment ought, we apprehend, to be made by an additional charge on the revenue of the province, and not by a deduction from the revenue of any one of the four endowed churches. Whatever fluctuations may occur in the comparative numbers of the members of those churches, the steady and rapid increase of the population of the Australian colonies renders it eminently improbable that the absolute wants of any one of those churches will ever be less than they are at present, or that the existing endowment of any one of them will ever be found to be excessive.

In giving this permanent character to the existing apportionment, it seems, however, necessary to guard against one error which has already been brought to light.

We subjoin a schedule, showing the results of the census of 1846, as far as respects the numerical proportion between the adherents of the different churches. From that schedule it will appear that the present apportionment of the fund for the support of public worship is less favourable to the other endowed churches, as compared to the Church of England, than, according to the census of 1846, it ought to be. In pursuance of the principle already stated, we propose that Parliament should be recommended to redress that inequality, not by a deduction from the share of the latter, but by an additional charge on the public revenue. Such a charge would not be of great amount, and would not raise the whole appropriation for public worship to the same proportion to the existing resources of New South Wales as that which subsisted between the former appropriation for that service, and the resources of the colony at the time when it was made.—Papers relative to the proposed alterations in the Constitution of the Australian Colonies, pp. 41, 42.

If the entire cessation of these grants cannot be obtained, the Committee would then suggest that both their continuance and amount should be left to the unfettered discretion of the Colonial Legislatures; for, without conceding that the Colonists would be justified, under any circumstances, in applying the public resources to ecclesiastical purposes, they submit that it would be clearly opposed to religious liberty to compel them to such an application, as they might be compelled, if their decision is to be subject to a veto of the Crown. If any additional reason can be required for the adoption of the course now recommended, it is furnished in another passage of the Report already quoted; viz.—

It appears to us hardly consistent with the full adoption of the principles of representative government—(the reference in this passage is to the Civil List)—that as to a large part of the public expenditure of the colony, the Legislature should be deprived of all authority; nor does there appear to us to be any real occasion for imposing a restriction upon the powers of that body, which manifests so much jealousy as to the manner in which those powers may be exercised. The expenditure thus provided for is all incurred in services in which the Colonists alone are interested. The Colonists themselves are mainly concerned in the proper and efficient performance of those services; and it appears to us that they ought to possess, through their representatives, the power of making such changes from time to time in the public establishments, as circumstances may require.—P. 43.

The committee respectfully urge these considerations, in the hope, that when the House is in committee on the bill, you will be prepared to support such amendments as may be moved, with the view of removing the objectionable features to which they have adverted.

On behalf of the committee,
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Sec.

ANALYSIS OF THE MARRIAGE BILL.

This bill, prepared and brought into the House of Commons by Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Edmund Denison, and Mr. Masterman, is entitled, "A Bill to amend and alter an Act passed in the 5th and 6th years of the reign of King William the Fourth, so far as relates to Marriages within certain prohibited degrees of affinity."

The first section repeals so much of the recited act as prohibits marriages between a man and the sister of his deceased wife. The second section provides, that no marriage which hath been heretofore, or shall be hereafter, celebrated between a man and the sister of his deceased wife, shall be annulled or pronounced void by reason only of the affinity of the parties thereto, by any sentence of the Ecclesiastical Court, or otherwise, but shall be deemed a valid marriage to all intents and pur-

poses, except under certain specified circumstances. The third section is as follows:—"Provided always and be it enacted, that nothing in this act contained shall be deemed or construed in any civil or ecclesiastical court of this realm to alter, or in anywise affect, any doctrine, canon, or law ecclesiastical of the United Church of England and Ireland, or of the Church of Scotland, whereby the degrees of consanguinity and affinity within which marriage is now held to be prohibited by the doctrine and discipline of the same churches respectively are settled or defined; and no clergyman, minister, or officer of either of the said churches shall be required or authorized, by virtue of this act, knowingly to solemnize, or grant any license for solemnizing, any marriage contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the church of which he is such clergyman, minister, or officer; nor shall any such clergyman, minister, or officer, who may hereafter knowingly solemnize, or grant any license for solemnizing, any such marriage, be exempted, by virtue of this act, from any spiritual or ecclesiastical censure or punishment to which he would by law be subject if this act had not passed; provided nevertheless that no marriage actually celebrated by any such clergyman or minister shall be void by reason of affinity; and that the parties contracting the marriage shall not be subject to a suit in the Ecclesiastical Court. The fourth section provides that the act shall not disturb persons possessed of property or honours in consequence of the invalidity of marriages heretofore contracted. The fifth says, that the bill shall not affect settlements of personal property under wills and testaments administered to before its passing. This is the whole of the bill, from which it appears that it neither directly nor indirectly affects the Established Church, which is making such an outcry against it; but is entirely in the nature of a Relief Bill for Dissenters, Wesleyans, and others not in communion with the Establishment.

THE WESLEYAN AGITATION.

DISTURBANCE AMONG THE WESLEYANS AT BRISTOL.

—A correspondent of the *Daily News* gives the following version of this affair:—"A terrible disturbance took place on Tuesday night at the Langton-street Wesleyan Chapel, Bristol. It would seem that the Rev. Messrs. Dunn and Griffith, two of the expelled Wesleyan ministers, having made preparations for preaching in that city, the Rev. the President of the Conference, Mr. Jackson, invited the members of the Bristol South Circuit to meet him at the Langton-street Chapel, with the view of hearing from him an explanation of the matters in dispute, and a vindication of the Conference policy. The admission having been by ticket of membership, the full particulars of what occurred within the walls of the sacred edifice have not transpired; but it is known that there was a very great disturbance, in the course of which (as some contend prematurely) the police of the Westminster division were sent for. As soon as the President and some of the ministers ascended the platform, they were assailed with loud cries for the admission of Mr. Dunn. The President attempted to speak, but not a word could be heard from the incessant clamour of a majority of the congregation, who demanded the admission of the expelled ministers. Other ministers tried to get a hearing, but with no more success, while Mr. Griffith, a brother of the expelled minister, who applied that he might be admitted to hear the charges against him, was heard with tolerable patience, as were some other parties who spoke on the same side. The President and others at length declared the meeting dissolved, and left the building, having previously given notice that a meeting of the North Circuit, announced for the following evening, at Ebenezer Chapel, would not be attempted. The affair has caused a good deal of excitement among the religious bodies of the city, and on Tuesday night Mr. Dunn preached at Bridge-street (Independent), and Mr. Griffith at Lodge-street (Independent) chapels, both of which places of worship were crammed to the doors, many hundreds being turned away."

ANOTHER WESLEYAN EXPULSION.—Mr. C. Dresser, a local preacher of the Eighth London Circuit, has been expelled by the Connexion by the Islington Leaders' Meeting. The cause is explained in the following extract from a letter of the Rev. John Scott, superintendent preacher of the circuit:—"As a member of the London Corresponding Committee, as a party to the holding of public meetings for the agitation of the Wesleyan Society, and by taking the chair at one of these meetings, held at Islington, you have openly violated the order, and incited others to a violation of the order, of our community. You have adopted a course contrary to the rules of our religious society and to the word of God, and which directly tends to destroy the peace, unity, and religion of the Wesleyan Societies."

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At a meeting held last week at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, composed of Wesleyan Methodists, the following was unanimously passed:—

We, the office-bearers and members of the Wesleyan Methodist Society in the Newcastle-upon-Tyne circuit, whose names are hereunto subscribed, feel it our solemn and imperative duty to reiterate our sentiments, and record our entire and unqualified disapprobation of the inquisitorial proceedings of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, in the expulsion of the Rev. Messrs. Everett, Dunn, and Griffith.

And moreover, that the subsequent acts and deeds of many of the preachers, and especially the act of the President of the Conference, in issuing that antichristian

document, "The Manifesto"—a bull of excommunication, a declaration of war—the principle of which strikes at the very root of Christian liberty, and breathes throughout a spirit of defiance and malediction, call aloud, and demand from us, a prompt, determined, and onward course of procedure, in the adoption of such measures as will (in our opinion, and to the best of our belief) cure the existing evils—the source of complaining, and ultimately allay the present agitation, which is convulsing our Society from one end of the kingdom to the other.

The document then goes on to state who shall be the representatives of the party at the forthcoming aggregate meeting of delegates, to be held in London; viz., R. S. Stanley, John Reay, Robert Pattison, sen., and John Benson. The selection, it is said, could not have been better; the elected being, to a man, made of unflinching materials.

And (continue they) we hereby agree that, should any one or more of our representatives be expelled—as it is probable they may, on account of their position as such representatives—or should expulsion take place with any other office-bearer belonging to, or connected with, this committee, that then, and from thenceforth, we simultaneously form a branch circuit, until the next Conference—under the following regulations.

The remaining portion of the document is very similar to what has emanated from other circuits, and breathes an air of determined resistance.

THE REV. JAMES BROMLEY, whose suspension as a Wesleyan minister we noticed last week, preached on Sunday last, in the morning, at Somerset-street, and in the evening at York-street, Baptist chapels. The greatest enthusiasm in the rev. gentleman's behalf seems to prevail. Crowds flocked to the chapels above-named, which were completely crammed, whilst the Wesleyan chapels were almost deserted.—*Bath Journal*.

GREAT MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.—A great meeting of the members of the Wesleyan body, "favourable to reform," was held in Birmingham on Wednesday night. Speeches were delivered by Messrs. Dunn, Griffith, and Everett, and the meeting resulted in the adoption of resolutions, declaratory of firm attachment to the doctrines contained in the writings of John Wesley, but expressive of regret that the discipline of Wesleyanism, as now existing, was opposed to Christianity, also regretting a recent declaration of the Conference, signifying that it has closed its ears to the voice of its people; and, thirdly, condemning the laws of 1836, in the belief that they were contrary to the laws of which they professed to be declaratory, and opposed to the teachings of the New Testament; entertaining these views, the meeting resolved that the time had arrived when extensive reforms are imperatively called for, and appointed delegates to attend the approaching aggregate meeting for this purpose.—Speaking of this meeting the *Birmingham Mercury* says:—"The meeting exhibited an overwhelming manifestation in favour, not only of the expelled ministers, but of the representative principle in ecclesiastical government. Meetings like that, numbering six thousand individuals, composed of the thoughtful and religious classes of society, cannot take place in vain; and though such demonstrations are made on behalf of only one portion of the religious world, yet their beneficial influence and results will be participated in by the community at large. The Wesleyan Conference cannot effectually resist the tide of reform which their own miserable policy has originated. They must either give way or be swept away. They cannot fail to see that the question between them and the reformers is of public importance and interest; that public sympathy and support are most unhesitatingly given to the cause of reform, whether in voluntary or state-endowed churches."—The spirit of the Wesleyan Reform movement may be judged of, from the following extracts from the speeches delivered at this important meeting. The chairman, J. Wright, Esq., said:—

It is only the ecclesiastical oligarchy of Wesleyanism we complain of, who have hypocritically, silently, and secretly, seized upon the power and authority which is opposed to the birthright and Bible-right of every man. They have audaciously and impudently monopolized the rights and liberties of the people; and the only weapon they have left you, and which they could not take from you, or they would have done so, is the power to stop the supplies. Therefore we call upon you to exercise that power, and then you will obtain all you want, your Bible rights and your rights as men. We are sorry to recommend this step, but we have no alternative: we are driven to it from necessity by our opponents, who know that in everything else we are impotent and helpless. We repudiate the Wesleyanism of the present ecclesiastical oligarchy, and call upon them to restore and give back to the people the rules, laws, and usages of 1797, the Plan of Pacification, the restoration of the word "majority" in all clauses relative to the expulsion of officers and members, with all the privileges, securities, and liberties, John Wesley left you, and which they have unjustly withheld from you. We call upon every Wesleyan to look into these things, and claim their rights and demand restitution—the opening of Conference to the local press, the doing away with nomination committees—we ask for light and not darkness. We repudiate secret committees, self-elected, and closed doors; let the light shine upon their acts and deeds. We want nothing, we ask for nothing but what, as men and Christians, we have a right to expect. We demand protection, security, and safety from the iron rod of priestly dominion and irresponsible power.

The following is an extract from the speech of W. H. Cozens Hady, Esq., a magistrate of Norfolk:—

I tell this vast assembly, that if the midland counties come up as Norfolk has on this question, victory is certain, for there is scarcely a circuit in the whole district but what is more or less excited on this question [cheers]. I do not belong—I never have belonged to the party in the State designated disloyal or disaffected; peace and quietness are far more congenial to my views

and secluded habits than to come forward on occasions like the present; but such have been the acts of cruelty and injustice perpetrated in Oldham-street Chapel, Manchester, in August last, that if one did not sympathize with these three men, we should be as criminal as the priest, of whom you have read in the sacred volume, who "passed by on the other side;" and every good Samaritan in the land would condemn us [cheers]. I am a lover of peace; but, while I love peace, I love liberty better [applause]. I cannot see my friends driven into the world homeless, penniless, without lifting up my voice against acts of despotism that would not have been tolerated in the days when yonder castle of Kenilworth was in the zenith of its glory [applause]. I knew that the men who could perpetrate such acts of despotism as they have done towards our three honoured and talented ministers, would not let us laymen alone long, if we did our duty and came forward to sympathize, and appeal to the country on their behalf. I stand here to-night on my legitimate right, and the right of every Englishman, to canvass the acts of a public body like the Wesleyan Conference [cheers]. We may petition Parliament at any time—we may approach even the foot of the throne—and we may canvass the acts of the Government without any one "daring to make us afraid;" and I think I have as much right to canvass the acts of the ministers in Conference as they have in Conference my acts out of Conference [cheers].

A CLERGYMAN'S MODE OF DEALING WITH THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION.—The *Worcestershire Chronicle*, in its Stourbridge news, gives the following letter and editorial comment:—"The Rev. C. H. Craufurd, rector of Oldswinford, has addressed a circular letter to the pewholders in his church, as follows:—

Dear Sir,—The total amount of the annual expenses connected with the performance of divine service, &c., in our parish church, including the organist's salary, the choir, heating the church, &c., is about £100, out of which items to the amount of £20 can be legally paid out of the church-rate. The remainder must, therefore, necessarily be raised by subscription. It does not appear to me worth while to disturb the peace of the parish and to excite the ill-will of Dissenters by enforcing their contributions towards so paltry a sum as £20 per annum, and several members of my congregation have expressed the same opinion. I am, therefore, very desirous of raising such a sum by annual subscriptions, as shall suffice to defray the whole expenses of divine service, &c.; thereby obviating the necessity of church-rates, services for the choir, and subscriptions to the organist's salary. I shall be much obliged if you will have the goodness to communicate to Mr. Harward, or to myself, the amount that you feel disposed to subscribe. I am, dear sir, yours truly, C. H. Craufurd.—Oldswinford, Dec. 1849.

It would be well if the example here set were followed in other parishes, where the levying and exaction of church-rates have proved a fertile source of dissension and heart-burnings, dividing parishes against themselves, and substituting party strife for religious tranquillity."

TOTAL CLOSING OF POST OFFICES ON THE SABBATH.—Many columns of the leading London papers have been occupied on various days in the present week by an advertisement issued by the Metropolitan Committee for promoting the total cessation of Sunday labour in the Post Office Department throughout the United Kingdom. This imposing document consists of three distinct declarations that such labour is unnecessary, and memorials to Government "to take into its immediate consideration the expediency and propriety of causing it to be discontinued, by ordering the post offices in the country to be altogether closed on the Sabbath day." The first declaration and memorial is signed by sixteen bishops, twenty-four peers, several members of parliament, clergymen, and professional men residing in London; the second is from thirty-five of the most eminent commercial houses in that city; and the signatures to the third, which are chiefly from a vast number of mercantile and other houses, are introduced by those of members of the corporation, and closed by a long list of clergymen officiating in and near the metropolis, who record their wishes in the same manner. In addition to this influential demonstration, petitions in behalf of the object are nightly presented to Parliament.

THE GORHAM CASE.—We understand that the judgment of the Committee of Privy Council in the case of Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter will not be given this week, but, if possible, on or before the 2nd of March. It is rumoured that his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury has written a letter, that is said to be already in type, upon the doctrine of Regeneration in Holy Baptism. If this be so, it will no doubt appear immediately after the judgment is delivered in the Gorham case. Our readers will be pleased to hear that the second reading of the Bishop of London's Clergy Proceedings Bill, containing the clauses relating to the new tribunal for heresy, is postponed till after Easter.—*Guardian*.

CHURCH-RATE CASE.—LAWFORD GATE PETTY SESSIONS. Magistrates: William Fripp, and A. G. Batteraby, Esqs.—The churchwardens of Westbury having levied a church-rate, several of the parishioners refused to pay, and were accordingly summoned to show cause why they refused. The hearing of the case was appointed for Thursday, when R. Norris, Esq., and other parties, attended, in answer to the summons with which they had been served. The evidence having been given of the levy of the rate, the serving of the summonses, and the refusal of the parties to pay, the magistrates wished to know if the parties were present to show cause why they refused; whereupon R. Norris, Esq., rose and addressed the bench as follows:—"I protest against this church-rate"—interruption by the magistrates, which, however, was unheeded by Mr. Norris, who continued—"and refuse to pay it because, first, I

believe that the laws of God, as they are made known both in natural reason and in revelation, forbid compulsory payments for the support of religion; and, secondly, because this rate is demanded on behalf of a Church from whose government, and from many of whose doctrines, I dissent, and whose connexion with the State I consider to be one of the most tremendous evils under which this country suffers. For these reasons I cannot, in conscience, pay this ecclesiastical impost, although I am sorry to be compelled to disobey the laws of my country. Of course I submit to the penalties of this refusal, but I protest against the proceeding as an invasion of the prerogatives of the Deity, and a violation of the rights of man." Mr. Fripp: We do not wish your interpretation of the law of God; you must pay the money. Mr. Norris: I shall not pay it. Mr. Fripp: Then the matter is settled, and it will be our duty to make an order upon you for the amount. After a pause of some minutes, Mr. Fripp asked to what denomination Mr. N. belonged? Mr. Norris: You have said that you have nothing to do with my conscientious scruples, and that the case is settled, and as that is an extra-judicial question I decline answering it. I shall be willing at the proper time and place to inform you upon that point, if you wish to know. Mr. Fripp: We don't wish particularly to know, if you have any objection. The magistrates then made an order upon all the parties for the several amounts.—From the *Bristol Examiner*.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

MR. LORD.—I am instructed by the Directors of the London Missionary Society to address your Lordship in reference to the sermons on its behalf, which, until last year, had, for more than half a century, been annually preached in one of the metropolitan churches.

It will be within your Lordship's recollection, that, in May last, the sermon was advertised to be preached by the Rev. T. R. Brooke, Rector of Avening, at the Episcopal Chapel, Gray's-inn-lane; but that the directors, on being informed by the incumbent, the Rev. Thomas Mortimer, that its appropriation to that purpose had been prohibited by your Lordship, promptly released him from his engagement, and omitted the long-established service. Their conclusion, at that time, was, that your Lordship's strongly-expressed objection to this practice would have finally prevented its recurrence. Indeed, under such circumstances, the directors themselves would not have desired it. Subsequently, however, your Lordship's letter to Mr. Mortimer, dated May 16, appeared; from which they learned that, when your prohibition was issued, you were unaware of the fact that the sermon had been customarily preached for many years, and that, on obtaining this information, you did not think it necessary to persist in that prohibition.

As your Lordship's letter to Mr. Mortimer did not reach the directors until after the last Annual Service of the Society, they were, of course, unable, for that year to avail themselves of the permission which it implied. But the time has now arrived when arrangements must be made for the next Anniversary; and, although they infer from that letter, that should any clergymen in your Lordship's diocese be willing to grant his church, your consent will not be withheld, they deem it alike due to your Lordship, to the clergymen to whom they may apply, and to themselves, respectfully to request that you will either correct or confirm their present impression.

The Directors feel assured that your Lordship will approve the course they have taken in thus endeavouring, in the first instance, to ascertain your present sentiments on this subject, and that you will appreciate the motives which prompt this application.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant,

(Signed) E. PROUT.

To the Lord Bishop of London.

This letter was dated January 23; and three days after, the Bishop transmitted his reply, which runs thus:—

London House, 29th January, 1850.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the favour of your letter of the 23rd instant, and I beg to offer my thanks to the Committee of the London Missionary Society for the courtesy of their communication.

It is true, that, if, before I wrote last year to Mr. Mortimer, I had been made acquainted with the fact, that an annual sermon had for many years been preached for the Society in one of the London churches, without interruption or objection, I should not have thought it necessary to interfere for the purpose of preventing his fulfilment of a promise of which public notice had been given.

But now that the custom has been once broken through, and that I am requested to state whether I am disposed to give my consent to its renewal, the question appears to me to have taken a different shape. It is obvious, that, if I were to answer that question in the affirmative, a practice, which has been heretofore rather connived at than permitted, would be resumed under my express sanction; and this I do not feel myself at liberty to give.

I beg to assure the Committee, that their kind consideration in writing to ascertain my sentiments before any clergyman of my diocese should be applied to for the use of his pulpit, increases the concern which I feel at being obliged to return an unfavourable answer to their inquiry.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

Mr. E. Prout. (Signed) C. J. LONDON.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

SOMERS TOWN—ITS CONDITION AND CLAIMS.

The following is the substance of a communication we have received from the Rev. T. Peavill, 12, Mexican Terrace, Battle Bridge, on the above subject:—

Having been engaged during the last 18 months in conducting a Congregational Mission, in Somers Town, I am desirous through the medium of your valuable paper to lay before the Christian public a few grave facts respecting the condition and claims of that important locality.

Somers Town is situated in the parish of St. Pancras, which contains, at the present time, about 140,000 inhabitants. In 1841 this parish numbered 129,763 individuals, a population greater than that of the county of Bedford or Hereford; it exceeded the aggregate population of Huntingdon and Westmorland; was six times larger than Rutland; and outnumbered the total population of the principal towns of eleven western and southern counties.

St. Pancras is the most extensive parish in London, and is alone exceeded in population by Marylebone. But, in all probability, St. Pancras, before long, will be the more populous of these two large parishes, as "in 1841 it contained 583 more houses than Marylebone, and covers an area of 2,600 acres, while Marylebone covers only 1,490 acres." As it possesses nearly double the surface of ground, it is likely that in a few years it will contain nearly double the present large population of Marylebone.

The religious wants of these multitudes have been awfully neglected. All the Churches and Chapels in the parish will not accommodate more than 36,000; and even this small accommodation is said to have been in 1841 double what was practically of use. So that more than one hundred thousand souls in this one parish, are in an alarming state of spiritual destitution. What Christian can reflect on their character and destiny without painful emotion?

In the centre of this huge parish lies Somers Town, and is, I believe, the most destitute part. With its immediate vicinity it contains, at the lowest estimate, 30,000 inhabitants. On the south side of this district there is an Independent Chapel—in the centre there is a small Baptist place of worship—the Presbyterians, also, have lately erected a school-room, which they use for preaching on Sunday evenings—there is church accommodation in the locality, or near it, for four or five thousand; and besides, there are three or four city missionaries, who visit, but do not preach, pursuing their useful labours. It may be asked, however, "what are these among so many?" Rating this provision at the highest amount, and as evangelical in its character, it does not meet the necessities of more than 7,000 of the inhabitants. The Roman Catholics and Mormonites have also their respective chapels in this district, but they have been excluded from the above estimate, their teaching and influence not being promotive of the best interests of the people.

There is only a small portion of either the middle or the lowest grade of society residing in Somers Town. Full three-fourths of its inhabitants belong to the class of artisans and small shop-keepers. The squalid misery and abject poverty which so awfully prevail in other parts of the metropolis, do not characterise the working classes of this locality to any considerable extent. Intemperance exists, but not so extensively as elsewhere. Infidelity and Socialism have, however, obtained a wider prevalence, and make known their presence by a uniform self-inflation, loose morality, and contempt of the gospel, with its institutions. The worst outward evil in the district is the almost general violation of the Lord's-day. The inhabitants for the most part may be said to have no Sabbath. "Not less than 1,560 houses were opened for trade in the neighbourhood on one Sunday in 1846." In the main streets trading is carried on with greater avidity, and it is alleged, with far more worldly profit, than at other times. Nearly every shop is open, long lines of stalls crowd the pavement, and multitudes throng every avenue. The spectacle is most appalling to a Christian stranger! Would that no eye could ever witness the abomination without exciting the heart to dictate some means for its speedy removal. In itself it is bad, but how terrible does it appear when viewed as the loathsome eruption on the surface, which too surely indicates the existence beneath of far grosser unseen evils which are preying upon the very vitals of society.

A great work requires to be done, in the way of preparing additional day-schools, that shall impart education of a better quality, and on a more liberal principle, than at present obtains in this locality. The urgent need of this throughout the parish is evident from the following statistics, extracted from the magazine of the City Mission:—"Of 55,804 individuals residing in the houses of the poor, 18,707 are under twelve years of age, and 15,693 are of a proper age to attend a daily or infant school. But of these, only 7,229 are said to attend a school, and 8,464 are said not to attend. Such is the state of education in St. Pancras, even if all the children who are said by their parents to attend the schools do so in reality."

It will illustrate the disregard of religious ordinances so prevalent in this locality, to give the results of a particular inquiry into the state of two districts about a quarter of a mile apart. The first of these, on account of its being occupied by a portion of the better conditioned class of mechanics, and being also not far from a place of worship of long standing, may be considered as presenting a most favourable specimen of the religious state of those who consent to receive the loan of

tracts. They are taken as they stand in the visitor's book. Of 50 families, containing 232 individuals, nine persons only avowed themselves regular attendants on public worship, and five said they were communicants. The second district to which I refer is Agar Town, a locality adjacent to Somers Town on the north east. The practical heathenism of its inhabitants is not to be surpassed, I should conceive, in any other part of the parish. The following statements respecting it are from the city missionary, May 1846:—"There is one awful fact connected with the erection of this town; viz., that the chief part of it has been built on the Lord's-day. The town is not lighted or paved. There are in it 698 families, consisting of 2,960 individuals. Of the 698 families only 155, and but part of them, profess to attend any place of worship; but there is reason to fear that many of them said 'Yes' to the question either from a sense of shame or to get rid of the visitor. 445 families acknowledged that they neither went to church or chapel: most of them without any sense of shame, and some ridiculing the idea of going to such places. There were also 98 families, who were not at home to answer for themselves, or who would not answer the question. 132 families were without the Scriptures; others said they had Bibles, but had neither time nor inclination to read them. And not unfrequently did the husband have to ask the wife, and the wife the husband, whether they had such a thing; while, in many instances, the children would not tell. The provision made for the spiritual and educational wants of this mass of people is exceedingly scanty. There is no licensed place of worship; 667 children, between three and twelve years of age, are wholly unprovided for; and only ten persons who were communicants were met with. To these statements may be added the published opinion of Mr. Dale, the vicar, on this subject; he observes, "There are certain parts of the parish of St. Pancras (and to this locality his remarks will most accurately apply) where the church and chapel accommodation have hitherto scarcely sufficed for one in fifty, where there are hundreds of children without a school—thousands of adults without a church—and where, in consequence, the moral condition of the people is such as would be a reproach, not only to a Christian, but even a civilized country; where not only all vestiges of the Christian Sabbath have well-nigh disappeared, but where the children of either sex exhibit a hideous precocity in crime, and immoralities are committed with scarcely an attempt at concealment, of which it were a shame even to speak." I forbear particular comment on these melancholy facts, lest I should unduly trespass on your space. But do they not cry aloud, trumpet-tongued, to all who have ears to hear, to come forward at once, to season, with the salt of the gospel, these masses of fetid and corrupt humanity? Our philanthropy has moved us to send our mission beyond the seas, to bring back the scattered wanderers of Africa to the fold. And we have done well in so doing. Yet a nobler mission remains undone—the conversion of our countrymen to Christ. It may not be so romantic, but it is more imperative.

REVENUES OF MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.—The London Missionary Society commenced its operations in 1800, and up to 1849 it had expended £1,922,346 18s. 2d. The Baptist Missionary Society commenced also in 1800, and up to 1842 it had expended £620,431 11s. 6d. The Wesleyan Missionary Society commenced in 1803, and had expended up to 1849, £2,269,855 9s. The Church Missionary Society commenced in 1805, and had expended up to 1849, £2,153,750 18s. 11d. The Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews commenced in 1809, and up to 1849 it had expended £594,720 11s. 4d. The British Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews commenced in 1845, and up to 1849 had expended £12,028 10s. The British Missions commenced in 1819, and up to 1849 had expended £169,965 16s. 9d. The Moravian Missions obtain an average income from England of £3,000 a year, which, for fifty years, is £150,000. The City of London Missions (Home Missions) commenced in 1836, and to 1849 it had expended £114,811 14s. 10d. Total, £8,007,921 11s. 6d. To which must be added the income from all sources of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts during the same period, £3,000,000. Grand total, £11,007,921 11s. 6d.—*Preston Guardian*.

THE REV. EDWARD BICKERSTETH.—We understand that the recovery of the Rev. Edward Bickersteth, who labours under congestion of the brain, is despaired of. On his medical adviser announcing to him that there was no hope; "Yes," he replied, "there is every reason to hope;" adding other expressions indicative of his consciousness of the approaching change, and of his preparation for it.—*Patriot*.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of this society took place yesterday evening week, at Exeter Hall, Mr. George Hitchcock in the chair. The secretary read a report, which stated that, although the past year had been attended with greater anxiety and labour than usual, still they had met with even more success than they could have anticipated. The greatest interest had been displayed by the members of this society for the lectures which had been given, and it would be difficult to estimate the amount of good which this one feature of the society had effected. They had also been enabled to realize an extensive library and reading-rooms; but not having sufficient accommodation, they have been compelled to seek for more commodious premises. They have decided upon taking their present place in Gresham-street, although their pecuniary obligations would be four times as much.

Although the library and reading-rooms have been open only since the 1st of September, they had now 1,000 volumes, and this number was by no means adequate to meet their present requirements. Their total receipts in 1848 were £6,081 14s., while during the last year they had amounted to £2,151 6s. 3d., showing an increase of £1,542 12s. 3d. Their expenditure had been for the past year £2,120 10s. 8d., leaving a balance in the hands of their treasurer of £30 15s. 7d. Several interesting extracts of correspondence from various parts of the world, from parties formerly members of the society, were read, and resolutions to the following effect carried:—"That the report just read be received, and an abstract thereof printed; that the meeting rejoiced at the success which has attended their labours, and would press upon young men the importance of seeking the practical application of those privileges with which they were now favoured; and that the meeting recognized the vital importance of the principles adopted by the association, and considered it the duty of every man to come forward and aid its interests by their endeavours and pecuniary assistance."

SERIOUS DISASTER AT A BAPTIST MEETING AT HAVERFORDWEST.—A serious catastrophe occurred on Tuesday week, at Stephen's Ford, near Haverfordwest. The Rev. T. G. Jones, Baptist minister, held a meeting in a room over a cow-house, which was crowded to excess. Just after he had given out the last hymn, and the choir were proceeding with its performance, the beams gave way, and the greater part of the congregation were precipitated headlong into the lower stall, amidst a number of cows! The rev. minister alighted on a cow's back, having, in his turn, a boy perched upon his shoulders. Several received severe injuries, and the confusion may be better imagined than described. The rev. gentleman was soon extricated from his perilous position, happily without receiving injury. Many of the congregation were with much difficulty released from under the beds, tables, chairs, &c., which were heaped upon them.—*Principality*.

PHILANTHROPY IN A PRISON.—About twelve months ago, arrangements were made in the Giltspur-street prison, by which some ladies, who kindly undertook the duty, have attended every Wednesday morning to read and speak to the females. The latter are divided into classes, similar to the plan of a Sunday-school. The chaplain believes it to have been attended with the best effects. The school is held daily; all the boys under seventeen attend, and any above that age who may wish to do so; and many of the most ignorant have gladly availed themselves of the opportunity. But others of the adults, under various pretences, have declined, some declaring that they were too old to go to school or to learn anything, and a few (perhaps deterred by a feeling of false shame) not willing to incur the taunts of their fellow-prisoners. There is a library in the prison, consisting of about 400 volumes, and about 100 circulate every week among the prisoners.

THE PENNY-A-WEEK READING-ROOM.—Less than two years ago, a "Working Men's Reading-room" was established (mainly through the exertions of Dr. Robert Elliott) in John-street, Butchergate, Carlisle, by penny-a-week subscriptions, which now possesses about three hundred works, and is supplied with local and metropolitan newspapers, &c. The property is vested in the Corporation of Carlisle, but the management is limited to working men dependent upon weekly wages. The Mayor and the Members, and the Fourth Estate, without any distinction of politics, give the room their hearty support; and we should rejoice to see the example of the West improved in the East.—*Gateshead Observer*.

UNADORNED ELOQUENCE.—We find in the *Bucks Advertiser* a report of a meeting of Buckinghamshire agricultural labourers held at Haddenham, to consider the allotment system, and to devise the best means of obtaining land. The curate of the parish presided. Some of the speeches remind those newspaper readers who possess good memories, of the Goatsacre assemblages during the Anti-corn-law contest. Robert Rose, a labourer, said, "I don't want to be independent of my master. I want master and man to be united for each other's interest. I want Tom and Tom, not one thing for the master and another for the man; and I say, let a poor man have a piece of land, and then you give him a chance to bring up his family—all of them then can try and earn something. Then they could get wholesome food, and not eat just anything—rang-tang, or such like. I say again, I want Tom and Tom. If a bit of land was let out, I think our street-corners would not be just as they are now—a place where all the young chaps get blackguarding about. I want to see a little feeling among us; but the poor are often against the poor. If they would stick together they would soon get their rights granted them. (One of the labourers present here made some sneering remark, to which Rose replied)—Yes, Richard, if you had a bit of land you would not have so many idle hours to loiter about [cheers, and roars of laughter]. I know what the value of a bit of land is. My bit has kept me from the parish oftentimes; for I would rather make any shift than do that. I had a bit of the worst land in the parish. When I took to it I could not stand on it, it was so swampy, but now you might drive a four-horse waggon over it." The meeting unanimously adopted a memorial to the vicar and other landowners of Haddenham, expressing the earnest hope that a portion of land, when vacant, may be allotted to the poor, "and your memorialists will ever feel deeply grateful for the kindness shown them."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—In your paper of the 6th of February the reviewer of the articles in the *Eclectic* for February says, respecting Gilfillan's "Literary Portraits," that "Mr. Gilfillan cannot complain of neglect on the part of the critics, for here is another critique, very generous in its tone, abundantly complimentary, but discriminating and truthful." In the *Noncon* of December 5th, 1849, under the head of "Literature," and in noticing the change of the proprietary of the *Eclectic*, you say that you "welcome his successor," and "have a guarantee in the character of this gentleman, as well as in his past labours, that the religious principles of the *Eclectic* will remain unchanged."

Did the writer of the article in the *Noncon* of the 6th ult. carefully read the critique which he has pronounced "discriminating and truthful?" and are we to believe that, according to the *Eclectic*, "it is surely a new and heretical doctrine in Christianity, that a man's happiness has anything to do with his nearness to God?" &c.

Do such sentiments and doctrines indeed meet with the approbation of the editor of the *Noncon*, or am I to suppose the reviewer never read—or read carelessly—the article alluded to? If the latter, he deserves a severe rebuke; if the former, "then how are the mighty fallen!"

Such things tend to shake the confidence of your readers, and some explanation should be given. I am glad that the pernicious doctrine in the above extract has been ably exposed and censured in this week's *Banner*.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours most truly,

JAMES WOODWARD.

February 22nd, 1850.

Our correspondent is one of those one-sided judges who is for passing sentence before he has heard both sides of a question. Can he, on reflection, suppose that Dr. Price would thus quietly hand over the *Eclectic Review* to a person who advocates what the *Banner* calls "infidel sentiments?" We are shocked at the want of confidence in public men, almost grown grey in the advocacy of evangelical Christianity, which this hasty condemnation exhibits. How far the elaborate attack of the *British Banner* against the *Eclectic* is justified, we leave our readers to determine by the manly—and, to our mind, perfectly satisfactory—vindication of the editor, in the letter of Dr. Price, contained in another column.

EXTENSIVE BANK FORGERIES.—Brighton was alarmed on Saturday evening by the discovery that a gang of swindlers were extensively and successfully, in part, at all events, uttering forged notes of the Brighton Union Bank, the plan adopted by the gang being a new process, which offers great facilities to the operations of forgers. A man in custody in Birmingham, on a charge of passing forged notes, when apprehended, threw a bundle of notes into the fire, and one of the fragments recovered, purported to be a portion of a £5 note of the Brighton Union Bank. A person on being shown the fragment, pronounced it to be a print from a well-executed transfer to a printing-stone of a genuine note, and his impression was confirmed on being subsequently shown other copies. He has since, however, reason to believe that the process by which the forgery of the printed part of the note was effected, was the analogous one called the "anasthetic," first brought into use, he believes, by a firm at Norwich, under the patronage of the late bishop of that diocese. On Saturday evening, a man of gentlemanly appearance walked into the shop of Mr. Lashmar, draper, and purchased some articles, for which he tendered a £5 Union Bank note, and Mr. Lashmar, not having enough change, sent the note to the bank. Mr. Chase ran to the shop immediately, and addressing a person seated, inquired whether he was the gentleman who had paid for some articles with a £5 note? "Yes," "It is forged," said Mr. Chase. "I was not aware of it," said the man. The chief officer did not care for that, and walked to the hall with the draper's customer, who was strictly searched. His hat, coat, and waistcoat, underwent the first examination, but the result was not important. "I must trouble you," said the chief officer, "to remove your trousers." The prisoner demurred and resisted, but resistance was useless. His nether garment was taken off. "I suppose you will want my shirt next?" said the prisoner. "Stockings first," replied the officer. The stockings were removed, and beneath the garters were found eight notes exactly similar to those already mentioned. "I suppose," said the prisoner, "you are satisfied now." "Not quite," said Mr. Chase; but no further revelation attended the prosecution of the search. The prisoner said he had no residence in Brighton, and lived in City-road, Brighton, but did not know the number. Constables in plain clothes were despatched about the town to put the tradesmen on their guard; and in the course of the evening upwards of twenty of the £5 notes, the produce of the same forgery, were brought to the hall, as well as two more of the utterers. The notes are numbered by means of printing types, and the forgeries are well executed resemblances. Economy, however, has been studied, for all the numbers are combinations of the four figures 6, 7, 0, 4, differently disposed. The necessity of simultaneous action seems to have been perceived, for all the utterings were between six and eight o'clock.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT ELECTION.—The vacancy in the representation of this county was supplied on the 20th inst. by the election of Mr. John Mackie, of Bargaly. Mr. Mackie was proposed by Mr. Maxwell, of Munsties, and seconded by Mr. M'Adam, Guillyhill. No other candidate having been proposed, Mr. Mackie was declared duly elected. Mr. Mackie returned thanks in a short speech, in which he expressed himself as favourable to the principles of free-trade and the progress of reform.

THE BRITISH BANNER
versus
THE ECLECTIC REVIEW.

The following documents, although long, are given to our readers under an imperative sense of duty. The occasion of them will be easily gathered from their contents. As we were responsible for recommending to our readers a continuance of hearty support to the *Eclectic*, when, owing to Dr. Price's health, it passed into other hands, we feel bound to make room in our columns for the vindication of its character, assailed so fiercely last week by the editor of the *British Banner*. We shall make no remark of our own upon the subject thus brought under notice, but simply content ourselves with referring attention to the subjoined replies.

In the *British Banner* of February 20th, I find two articles devoted to the denunciation of a paper on Mr. Gilfillan's "Second Gallery of Literary Portraits," which appeared in my last number—and to a very wholesale and unsparing attack upon my own orthodoxy. Now, though I am anxious at all times to avoid, as much as possible, reviewing my reviewers, and have no disposition to evade the probe of manly and generous criticism, I do feel called upon to protest, firmly, but respectfully, against the charges of my weekly contemporary, and to furnish such explanation as appears to be demanded by a due regard for my own character, and for the interests of a periodical which has ever been identified with a cause to me most dear and sacred; viz., the cause of religious truth and liberty.

My contemporary has not been satisfied with reviewing my last number, but has even devoted a leading article to the subject, and included in his placard of contents for February the 20th, the following most startling announcement:—"INFIDELITY! THE 'ECLECTIC REVIEW' AND ITS EDITOR! ALARMING MANIFESTO ON THE SUBJECT OF RELIGION AND HUMAN HAPPINESS."

I think I have good reason to complain of so hasty and summary a judgment being passed, without any opportunity having been afforded me for reply and explanation. To placard as a teacher of infidelity an old and long-respected periodical—renowned for the zeal and ability with which the holy verities of Christianity, and the great principles of religious liberty and Nonconformity have been defended in its pages during years of change, difficulty, and excitement—to publicly denounce, in review, leading article, and bill of contents, the editor of such a publication, who had been inducted to his office by the frank and unreserved recommendation of a man so well known and confided in as Dr. Price—I say, to do this, on mere rumour, or in consequence of the appearance of a seemingly objectionable passage in a single article, was, to say the least of it, a harsh and precipitate mode of procedure. But I shall leave my good friend and editorial predecessor, Dr. Price, to deal with the animus of the articles and placard referred to, and confine myself to the sentiments complained of, and the attack made upon my own religious faith. I will commence by asserting that the review of Mr. Gilfillan's very able and original work was not written by myself, but by a gentleman whose religious views I believe to have been as little called in question as his learning and genius; and who I know to be no more disposed than the editor of the *British Banner* himself, to tolerate that modern latitudinarianism, which I hold to be one of the deadliest enemies of religious truth and personal holiness. It is true that, as quoted by the *British Banner*, there is an ambiguity about the passage which might create, in some minds, a suspicion as to the religious correctness of the writer's views on one of the most vital questions; but I would seriously protest against separating the text from the context, as is done in the review under notice; for, according to this principle of criticism, I know of no human writings which might not be exposed to the condemnation of the friends of Christianity.

The following is the passage, quoted by the critic in the *British Banner*, on which the charge of infidelity, brought against the *Eclectic*, is based. It refers to the following passage in Mr. Gilfillan's paper on "Emerson," in his last published "Gallery;" and ought either to have been quoted entire, or not quoted at all.

Mr. Gilfillan remarks:—

Indeed, over all Emerson's poems, and over those of many of his followers, there hangs a deep gloom. His fun, when he attempts to be humorous, is dull and feeble. It is the drone of the "humble bee," which is quite as melancholy as it is mirthful. He is never so eloquent as when expressing the feelings of one who, from the pursuits of ambition, and the company of men, has sought a sad solace in nature, which yet, without a God, can only glare and glitter about his eye and imagination, but not touch his heart. His personal purity, which is that of a guarded dewdrop, has saved him from many pains and penalties; but we do think that it is the subtlety which so strangely mingles with the simplicity of his nature, like the eye of the basilisk looking out from the silvery plumage of the dove, which has veiled from many the fact that he is not a happy man.

On this passage the *Eclectic* reviewer commented as follows, according to the version of his sentiments given by the writer in the *British Banner*:—

We protest—in the name of religious liberty, in the name of Christian charity, in the name of even common decency—against all such fierce and insulting soothsay-

ings as this. "Judge not, that ye be not judged." We dissent from Emerson's theory of things, whether latent or spoken, as decidedly as Mr. Gilfillan can do; but we believe the American transcendentalist to be one of the happiest of Nature's dear children—a belief which is grounded on much observation of him while in this country two years ago. Besides, it is surely a new and heretical doctrine in Christianity, that a man's happiness has anything to do with his nearness to God! Suppose a case of total spiritual death, where there were health, good fortune, great talents, fine morals, noble reputation, everything one could desire—might not the possessor be happier than David with his everlasting struggle, Paul with his boundless sorrow over Jew and Gentile, Dante, or poor Cowper?

Now, in the name of common fairness and Christian justice, I ask, why is the very context omitted which would have thrown an entirely new light over the meaning of the passage quarrelled with? If the doctrine laid down is false, by all means let it be condemned, and held up to the reprobation of the Christian public; but, for truth's sake, let an author be fully and fairly quoted before we presume to pass judgment on his sentiments, or to dogmatize as to his meaning. The following sentences form a portion of the passages just quoted, but are entirely omitted by the reviewer in the *British Banner*!—

Does George Gilfillan actually know nothing about blessedness, as by no means including happiness, for all he talks so much about it in other portions of his work? Why does he rescue such wandering spirits as Shelley and Hazlitt from the ill-considered hatred of the mob, only to impale another victim?

The doctrine which I understood, and still understand, this passage, if taken as a whole, to teach, is simply that a man's nearness to God does not ensure the increase of the "corn, wine, and oil," or material comforts of a worldly prosperity, but rather those spiritual riches, those "treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt." The good are blessed, but it by no means follows, that because good they will be in the material sense happy. Besides, the higher a man rises in the spiritual scale—the more he is influenced by the discipline of the Christian life—the more he realizes a sense of God's infinite holiness, and his own utter insignificance and abasement—and the more he longs to realize that "perfect love" which "casteth out fear," the more anxious, the less serene and self-complacent, will such a man become. "The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." It appears to me that happiness belongs rather to this world and its allotments, whilst "blessedness," the privilege alone of "God's dear children," is independent of material good, and communicates, even to the most sorely pressed, but regenerate creatures of time, a foretaste of the transports of eternity.

The following communication from the author of the article in question, I give entire, in justice both to him and myself:—"The author of a critique upon Gilfillan's 'Second Gallery of Literary Portraits,' which appeared in the February number of this *Review*, has been shocked to learn that a passage in that critique has given offence to readers, whom he would not willingly offend. They have put a meaning upon it, which was never intended. On studiously considering the paragraph, he perceives that a word or two here and there would have rendered any misunderstanding of its purport, absolutely impossible. If he had to print it again, he would print it thus, the words in italics being the only new ones introduced:—'Besides, it is surely a new and heretical doctrine in Christianity, that a man's common happiness has anything to do with his nearness to God! Suppose a case of total spiritual death, where there were health, good fortune, great talents, fine morals, noble reputation, everything of an earthly sort one could desire; might not the possessor be happier, in the vulgar sense of that adjective, than David with his everlasting struggle, Paul with his boundless sorrow over Jew and Gentile, Dante, or poor Cowper? Does George Gilfillan actually know nothing about blessedness, as by no means necessarily including happiness in the every-day sense of the term, for all he talks so much about it in other portions of his work.'

"The author begs to submit to the candour of his censors, that such is precisely the sense in which Mr. Gilfillan uses the word *happy* in speaking of Emerson; that he (the author of the article in the *Eclectic*) characterises the American poet as 'one of the very happiest of Nature's dear children,' just before the above animadversion on Mr. Gilfillan; and that the babble of certain infidel political economists has stamped a peculiarly secular signification on the word *happy* and its derivatives—a word derived from the essentially unchristian idea of *hap* or chance. He further assures the readers of the *Eclectic Review*, that he agrees with everything that has been said, or can be said, concerning the relation subsisting between the peculiar happiness (if the word must be used) of the Christian, and the equally peculiar blessedness of his state of grace. They should also be informed that, on account of unexpected impediments, the editor of the *Eclectic* had not sufficient time allowed him by the author for the supervision of the critique in question. The blame, whether real or imaginary, is all his own. But, surely, the intelligent reader will never suffer his judgment to be overcrowded by such thoughtless criticism, as is hereby refuted, and held up to the scorn of the ingenuous mind. Let the bannermen of the Christian host beware lest their standard become a mockery in the camp of the common enemy!"

I do not think it necessary to enlarge on this part, and therefore pass on to notice the charge brought against myself. I shall quote the passage, which

will be found at the conclusion of one of our contemporary's leading articles, at length.

Since the above was written, some facts have come to our notice which, in part, explain the source of the extraordinary and alarming article, on which we have been animadverting. When the *Eclectic Review* changed hands, it was generally reported, that the new Editor was a young minister of the Baptist body, whose health and voice had impeded his success as a preacher; and that, being a man of superior ability and eminent scholarship, he was henceforth to devote his energies to literature and the *Eclectic Review*—a representation which at once inspired confidence in many quarters, and everywhere prevented the slightest suspicion; but it now comes out that this gentleman was colleague to Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., the celebrated Unitarian minister! If such be the case, it will explain what is otherwise inexplicable. It will, moreover, account for the very cool and cautious introduction which was given him by Dr. Price, and also for the non-publication of the new Proprietor and Editor. Our confidence in Dr. Price is such, that we can allow nothing materially to shake it, till he has spoken for himself. If the facts be as now reported, he must, doubtless, have had strong guarantees for the spirit and the principles which were to regulate the *Review*, else it may be questioned how far that most honourable man has dealt fairly by the public, and that large circle whose confidence he enjoys. But we cannot enlarge without further light.

To the strictures on my friend Dr. Price, I shall leave that gentleman to reply for himself, knowing full well that he needs not my aid in such a matter. For my own part, I have simply to state, that the assertion, that I ever was the COLLEAGUE of Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., is untrue; and that though, in bygone years, I may have entertained and advocated theological views at variance with what are now my convictions of Christian truth, I cannot admit that my past errors of opinion can be said to justify any attempt, which may be made to damage my interests as Editor of the *Eclectic Review*. I allow, candidly and unequivocally, that I have, in former years, entertained and advocated Unitarian sentiments. I allow, as candidly and unequivocally, that experience, matured thought, and, I humbly hope, the Divine Spirit, have led me to discover the error of, and to renounce, such sentiments, and to apprehend, in all its force and sanctifying grandeur, the significance of the declaration made by Jesus to a world, which had wandered from duty and from God, that "God so loved the world, that he gave his Son that whosoever believeth on him might not perish but have everlasting life."

When I first contemplated becoming Proprietor and Editor of the *Eclectic Review*, I was influenced by a desire to do my little part in resisting the advances of that many-coloured infidelity in reference to the gospel, the seductiveness of which I knew full well, from the mental struggles and experiences of years, and the sources, the causes of which it had been my fate to trace out, during weeks and months of doubt, fear, and anxiety. I desired to pursue the walks of literature, which education and taste had endeared to me, maintaining the verities, and vindicating the claims of the Christian faith, whilst doing justice to the creations of human genius, and insisting on the eternal, though too little apprehended truth, that genius, in spite of all its grandeur, is but a talent, imposing on its possessor a heavier burden of responsibility—that intellect, without a regenerating knowledge of God, presents the demon aspect of power without goodness, and, that whilst it may be most undesirable that our modern literature should become more sectarian, it is no less desirable that such literature should be charged with a more religious spirit, and tend more directly to promote a genuine religious life in the soul of its varied readers.

If, however, justice is to be done to my endeavours, I must be judged, not by the stray sentence which may occur in the article of some contributor, but by the general tone and tendency of the *Review* which I am privileged to conduct. The question is not, whether here and there some reader or critic may see reason to join issue with me, but whether the work, as a whole, is true to the great cause and principles which, for so many years, it has been the honoured and consistent advocate. That is the real question, and by the answer returned to it by the thoughtful, candid, and generous among Nonconformists, I am prepared to stand or fall. Favour I ask not, but justice I DEMAND. I feel that I cannot do better than conclude this statement, marked, I trust, by no unrighteous or angry feeling, than by quoting the conclusion of my first address to "the readers of the *Eclectic Review*."

"I can only say that my dearest object, my holiest ambition, in connexion with my labours as a writer, is to vindicate the divine claims of Christianity, and hasten on its emancipation from the bondage of the State—to assert the claims of humanity, whether those claims assume a political or a social form—to defend our old landmarks of faith against the encroachments of a 'philosophy falsely so called'—in fine, to do my humble part in assailing error in theology—in maintaining right and truth in politics—and imparting vigour, manliness, and heroism to Nonconformity; and may He 'without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy,' qualify me for my work!"

THE EDITOR OF THE ECLECTIC REVIEW.

To the Editor of the British Banner.

DEAR SIR,—My attention has been called to three articles in the *British Banner* of last Wednesday, and I have read them with mingled feelings of astonishment and sorrow. Since doing so I have carefully perused the *Eclectic* paper to which they refer, and I can now honestly say that I never sat down to write with so painful a sense of the cruel wrong done by a religious journalist as on the

present occasion. The feeling perfectly oppresses me, and is only rendered the more intense by a consideration of the party who has perpetrated the wrong.

So far as I am personally concerned, I have nothing to add to what I have already said to the public. In my closing Address, printed with the December number, I said that it was some consolation to me to reflect that the future conduct of the *Eclectic* would "maintain all its distinguishing principles, theological, ecclesiastical, and political." I am not accustomed to use words in a recondite or hidden sense. I intended to be understood, and spoke, therefore, as every honest man would do, in language adapted to convey my meaning. If any one denies the integrity of my statement, or alleges that it was used without due evidence, let him say so, and I shall know how to deal with him. To reiterate my affirmation does not consist with my notions of self-respect, nor should I have deemed it honest—to say nothing of higher motives—to employ the language I did if I had rested merely, as you suggest, on "strong guarantees," from a party whom I knew or suspected to be opposed to the theological views advocated by the *Eclectic*. I wish not to boast, but the insinuation you have penned compels me to say, that the copyright of the *Eclectic* should have been put into the fire, rather than have been passed, for a pecuniary consideration, to a man who did not, as I believed, and do still believe, cordially embrace the great radical doctrines of the Mediatorial economy. Such was my conviction in November, and nothing has since occurred, notwithstanding the fierceness of your onslaught, to shake it.

Here, Mr. Editor, I should close, did I not feel that something was due to my successor, whom you have grievously wronged. I do not wish to employ strong terms. I value too highly your many noble qualities, and have been too frequently your defender or apologist, to have any other feeling, at this moment, than that of bitter sorrow. I cannot henceforth say what I have said in days that are passed. I must speak more guardedly, must make admissions which I have hitherto refused, and allow the possibility of haste, intemperance, and injustice, in the judgments you pronounce. As one who loves your virtues, and who thanks you for your kind and generous references to himself, I deeply regret this necessity. There is no help for it, however, according to my reading of the facts of this case. Those facts are few and patent, and are briefly these:—

In a long critique in the February number of the *Eclectic Review*, which contains, as you admit, "several articles of superior merit, and strongly marked"—the italics are mine—"by sound principles, as it regards religion and man," you have fixed on a paragraph, and more particularly on a single sentence, as the ground of preferring against the journal a wholesale charge of infidelity. On first reading your critique, I could not refrain from smiling. The noise and bluster so far exceeded the occasion, there was such an obvious effort to get up the wind, such a magniloquence of style, and such a paucity of everything which gives value to composition, that I was for a moment perplexed and doubtful, half suspecting there was some latent meaning which my stupidity prevented my seeing. But my second thought was grave and painful. "Is it possible," I said to myself, "that so generous, and, in many respects, so large-hearted a man as Dr. Campbell, can have committed so grievous an offence against the claims of justice and truth, to say nothing of charity and brotherhood? How is this? What is it that has so beclouded his intellect, so misled his judgment, so deadened his heart to all the nobler impulses of which it is commonly susceptible?" I will not say what reply I received, but the third of your articles, I confess, helped me to it.

But the matter, to use your own words, "is serious in the extreme, and must not be lightly passed over." In the first place, then, Mr. Editor, you have been guilty—I regret to say so—of withholding from your readers two lines immediately following the extract you have adduced, and which are absolutely needful to a correct apprehension of the writer's meaning; and, in the second place, you have understood the term "happiness," in the passage you have quoted, in a totally different sense from that in which the reviewer uses it. Bear in mind, that I do not suspect you of wilfully omitting the lines in question in order to give weight to your censure. Others, no doubt, will do so, and so far as the mere facts of the case are concerned, they have much to plead. But I believe you to be incapable of such baseness. Both you and I may have our faults, but they are not such as would lead to a crime like this. I speak, then, simply of the fact of omission; and of this there can be no doubt. The lines immediately following the extract you have given illustrate the distinction existing in the writer's mind between *blessedness* and *happiness*, and were obviously intended to point out the special meaning in which the latter term was used. "Does George Gilfillan actually know nothing," it is asked, immediately after the words you have printed in italics, "about *blessedness*, as by no means including *happiness*?" In this distinction lies your stumbling-block. You have strangely overlooked it, and have, in consequence, attached to the writer's language a meaning as abhorrent to him as to yourself. Where he speaks of one thing, you charge him with another, and then, assuming the correctness of your interpretation, you denounce an evil which exists only in your own imagination, throw fire-brands about you; and pen sentences as reprehensible in spirit as they are defective in good taste. It required no extraordinary candour to perceive—connecting the words you have quoted with those you have omitted—that

the reviewer was not speaking of that blessedness which constitutes the highest happiness of an intelligent creature, but of another and an inferior order of enjoyment, which, as it does not spring from religious truth, may be, and frequently is, found where that truth is not embraced. I will not insult your readers by an attempt to prove such facts. It is enough for my purpose to say that this is the sense in which the words in question properly bear, the sense in which they were obviously used, and in which that charity which thinketh no evil, could not fail to understand them. The form of expression may have been unhappy; that it was so, is proved by the use you have made of it; but the sentiment intended by the writer was true, and I adopt it as my own. I say so coolly, and on deliberation, and that, too, after carefully perusing all you have penned. Am I then, Mr. Editor, an infidel? and if not, what must we think of your fierce denunciations of my successor? I might say much on the recklessness with which you have preferred grave charges, and have thrown about you the basest insinuations, but I forbear. It is foreign from my wish to employ one provoking word. You have certainly darkened counsel "by words without knowledge," and in doing so have committed wrong against men who are as sincere as yourself in their attachment to evangelical truth. Your offence is aggravated by what may possibly be pleaded as an excuse. You wrote in ignorance, and have therefore written in error. But you might have been informed; and the fact of your not making inquiries raises a doubt which your best friends must deplore.

But you tell your readers, in your second article, that some facts have come to your notice which in part explain the matter, and then proceed to refer to a report about "a young minister of the Baptist body," of which I never heard, nor can I up to this moment understand your reference. You add, however, and here you become intelligible, "It now comes out that this gentleman (my successor) was colleague to Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., the celebrated Unitarian Minister;" and then follow four sentences, which have no meaning unless they are intended to convey the impression that the gentleman in question is now, and was at the time of my arrangements with him, a Unitarian, and that, too, of the order which approximates most closely to simple Deism. The insinuation respecting myself, which these sentences contain, I pass over. Let those who know me say whether I am likely to have been guilty of it. What I do, I do openly; be it wise or foolish, commendable or blameworthy. Concerning my successor, however, I must speak, though I can scarcely trust myself to do so, in reply to the sentence just quoted. That he was ever a colleague of Mr. Fox, is untrue; and I charge you, Mr. Editor, with great disingenuousness in having so designated him. The *animus* of the epithet cannot be mistaken; but, leaving this, the sentence in question is one of the most marked and glaring instances of the *suppression veri* which has ever come under my notice. Truth, with the exception just stated, is so put, as to produce all the effect of falsehood. The sentence was penned, I doubt not, in haste; but you ought to have inquired, and, had you done so, you would have been guiltless of the wrong you have perpetrated. It will be for my successor to make what disclosures he pleases respecting his religious history. I will merely say that, though formerly a Unitarian Minister, he has learned a holier truth than Unitarianism teaches; and now glories, like the apostle, "in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." The fact of his former Unitarianism, so far from unfitting him for his present post, is one of his many qualifications for it; and as such, was present to my mind in November last, when, in my closing Address, I spoke of him as possessing, in some departments, "more thorough and practical knowledge" than myself. I then anticipated from him, and I do still, such an unfolding of the more latent forms of unbelief, such a development of the struggles of an earnest mind, in pursuit of truth, as can be furnished only by those who have been entangled in error, and as would be found highly conducive to the welfare of the readers of the *Eclectic*. Was I wrong in these anticipations? and, if not, what must be thought of the pious horror you have avowed, and of the unworthy insinuation you have ventured to pen? Instead of saying that the present Editor had been a colleague of Mr. Fox, which he never was, you should have said that, though formerly a Unitarian minister, he had been alarmed by the spread of rationalism in the Unitarian body, and, as the only safe resting-place to an inquiring and anxious spirit, had returned to a cordial faith in the doctrine of atonement. Had you said so—and it would have been the simple truth—the sting of your whole article would have been extracted. But you did not say so. On the contrary, you said respecting the past much more than was true, and left unsaid respecting the present what would have changed entirely the tendency and effect of your statement. If my friend's attachment to evangelical truth be not stronger than your charity, he may well recoil from a fellowship in which he meets with so unworthy a reception.

But are we, my dear Sir, really come to this? If so, it is time we look about us. My attachment to evangelical truth strengthens with my years, but in proportion to such attachment is my conviction of the uncharitableness, dogmatism, spleen, and even personal enmities, which have been permitted to mingle with, and to profane, our defences of the truth of God. Instead of making a man a sinner for a word, I verily believe that our theological terminology has been a curse to the Church, and that the best service which can now be rendered is her emancipation from its trammels. If our religious journalism, however, is to be marked by the spirit

which characterises your notice of the *Eclectic Review*; if the injustice you have perpetrated, the false charges you have preferred, the dictatorship you have assumed, are to distinguish its columns; then the sooner we have done with it the better. I care not what be its profession, its denominational credit, or its occasional excellences. It is in such case a curse, and not a blessing, a fountain of pride, discord, and bitterness, rather than a source of peaceful and sanctifying truths. Let us rather have the *Times*, with its shameless disregard of principle, or the *Standard*, with its proverbial untruthfulness, than a so-called religious-journalism, which conceals the vices of its secular contemporaries beneath the forms and phraseology of the Christian faith.

One word more, and I have done. You have not only yourself assailed the *Eclectic* and its Editor, but you have permitted an anonymous correspondent, E. A. B., to do the same. I have myself known much of this sort of thing, and I heartily despise it: many reports were industriously propagated respecting my own editorship, but I knew their objects, and time has consigned them to the dust. Many are concerned to damage the *Eclectic* for other offences than that to which your charitable correspondent refers, and it is therefore specially incumbent on every editor, as a matter of common honesty, to close his columns against anonymous assailants. On you, Mr. Editor, this obligation is especially binding, inasmuch as you avow, in the second of three articles I complain of, your "habitual contempt and neglect of all anonymous assailants." How you reconcile the rule you have observed in your own case, with your conduct towards the *Eclectic*, in admitting the anonymous contribution of E. A. B., I cannot see. Is this doing "to others as you would have others do to you?" I trow not."

I am sorry for the length to which this communication has extended. It has not been my habit to notice newspaper attacks, nor should I have done so in the present case, had not the interests of others been involved. I have said only what truth and justice seemed to me to render imperative, and now leave the matter in your hands. Act worthy of yourself, my dear Sir.

Show the "manly love of fair play," for which the *British Quarterly* gave you credit in August last, and thus confirm the attachment of many who have rejoiced in your labours, and wished you success.

I remain, yours faithfully,

7, Highbury-terrace.

THOMAS PRICE.

THE "QUEEN'S AVENUE" at WINDSOR.—Just previously to the departure of the Court from Windsor Castle to Buckingham Palace, a new avenue of trees was planted in the Home-park, leading from the Royal residence to the terminus of the London and Windsor Railway in Datchet-lane, which is situate just beyond the walls of the park. The avenue will consist of between thirty and forty trees—the *Pinus Deodara*, and from the well-known and rapid growth of this description of fir, a shady avenue will be formed in the course of a very few years. The first, or "the Queen's tree," was planted by her Majesty, close to Datchet-lane, his Royal Highness Prince Albert planting "the Prince's tree" opposite the Queen's; and in a line with the Prince Consort's, trees were also planted by the Princess Royal and Princess Helena and Prince Alfred. The trees planted by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alice were in a line with her Majesty's. Each of the Queen's distinguished visitors at the period, and several of the Royal suite, also planted one, until the required number had been completed. By means of the private drive which has now been formed her Majesty can now proceed from the Castle, through the Royal domain, to the railway terminus, without having to travel more than one hundred yards on a public road.—*Globe*.

CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL.—"Will you believe," writes a correspondent of the *Times*, "that from an income of some £18,000 per annum, placed in their hands for educational and eleemosynary purposes, not a single sixpence has ever been bestowed by the Governors of the Charterhouse—not a half-bound volume—not a medal, silver or gold—in order to stimulate the energies of their scholars, and by raising the standard of the school, to attract boys to it? Prizes and medals, indeed, are annually distributed, but these are derived from the scanty funds but generous devotion of the masters of the school. I wish I could add that any single governor had, in his private capacity, done the like."

THE LEICESTERSHIRE FARMERS.—We have this week reported the proceedings of two meetings of the farmers of Leicestershire, convened for the purpose of forming associations for the maintenance of their interests. One was held at Hinckley, on Monday; the other at Bosworth on Wednesday. Both are worthy of notice as evidences of a growing determination on the part of the agriculturists of this county to think and act for themselves, instead of being thought for and acted for. At both—the existing pressure under which agriculture suffers was attributed immediately to free trade—protection was spoken of as a thing for ever defunct, and (even were its revivification possible) as only one of many measures necessary for the relief of the farmer. Among other things necessary we find mentioned reform of the Game-laws, Tenant-right, Reduction of Rents, Re-adjustment of Tithes, County-rate Control, Financial Reform, abolition of useless places and revision of the Pension List—and at Bosworth, copies of the "Black Book" were to be seen in the hand of many a farmer.—*Leicester Mercury*.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

THE EDUCATION BILL is not yet passed by the Legislative Assembly, but has given rise to some curious scenes. There has been a serious split in the Conservative majority of the Chamber on this question. The committee, in consequence of a compromise between M. Montalembert and M. Thiers, had proposed that the chief inspectors of the university should be chosen by the minister out of a list presented by the high counsel, which is to be composed of laymen and clergymen. But the Government would not accept such a condition, and M. Parrier, the Minister of Public Instruction, desired that the minister should be at liberty to choose the chief inspectors. The amendment was adopted, notwithstanding the endeavours of the committee and the arguments of M. Thiers. The Montagne and M. Dufaure's friends voted in this circumstance for the Government. M. Thiers was furious, and in a sitting of the meeting *du conseil d'état*, which took place the same evening, he declared that the conservative party ought to abandon the Cabinet, and vote against it on every opportunity. "France," he said, "would ultimately find herself placed between anarchy and the most stupid, the most ridiculous, and the most petty of despotisms." He spoke of the Government in contemptuous terms, as weak, stupid, feeble, &c., describing the representatives who voted with M. de Parieu, as the *complaisants* of the Ministry. The little gentleman's towering rage excited great astonishment, and about fifty of the members left the meeting, declaring that they would never return to the Club. M. Thiers's advice was not, indeed, adopted, but it is certain that this affair has thrown a great degree of coolness between the friends of the Cabinet and those of M. Thiers and M. Montalembert. On Saturday there was a long discussion on an amendment proposed by M. Bouyet on the 65th clause of the Education Bill, to interdict the right of teaching to religious communities not recognised by the State. After a most tumultuous and stormy debate, occasioned by the severe remarks of M. Thiers on the men that governed France in the first months of the Republic, and which lasted till 8 o'clock, the amendment was rejected by a majority of 450 against 148. A proposition to render primary instruction obligatory and gratuitous has been rejected by the Assembly.

THE APPROACHING ELECTIONS.—M. Emile Girardin has not only been rejected by the Social Democratic Committee, but has so after having addressed the committee at much length, from two o'clock till four in the morning. On Thursday he could only obtain 48 votes in his favour, whereas his rivals had—Deffouta, transported of June, 204 votes out of 210; Vidal, ex-Secretary of the Luxembourg Commission, 182; and Carnot, 131. Dation, Shu, Flocon, Goudchaux, Malacort, &c., were also rejected. The *Napoleon* adopts as its candidates for Paris, General Lahitte, M. Arrighi de Padua, and M. Boniou.

Some sensation has been produced in Paris by the publication of a brochure professing to lift the veil from the secret history of the Montagnard party in the great days of February 1848. The author, M. Chenu, was once a Captain in Causidière's Guard; he has now turned on his former associates, and professed to expose their vulgar selfishness of aim and dissolute habits of private life. The first edition of the pamphlet was sold in a few hours; and 3,000 francs had been offered for permission to publish the second edition. M. Causidière, in a letter from London to the *Patrie*, states that M. Chenu hardly knows how to read or write, declares his statements to be false, and that he had been condemned to eight years' hard labour for theft and murder in the regiment to which he belonged.

On the 15th and 16th, the Assembly discussed M. Nadaud's proposition to encourage workmen's associations by allowing them to bid for Government contracts. The project appeared in the eyes of some to be a covert advance of Socialism, and was strongly opposed by them. Ultimately the Assembly decided, by 303 to 297, that M. Nadaud's bill should be read a second time.

The reported appointment of the Count Strogonoff on an extraordinary embassy from the Emperor of Russia to Paris, is contradicted; and it is said that the extravagant joy felt in the Elysée has been succeeded by a profound chagrin.

M. Napoleon Bonaparte writes to the *Opinion Publique*, denying with considerable warmth, a report that he has been charged with a mission to Constantinople. He disassociates himself from a policy which he has energetically opposed since the expedition to Rome; and believes that the Government is as little inclined to entrust him with a mission as he is to accept it.

The *Napoleon* states that Prussia having thought proper to place her army on the war footing, the French Government had resolved to reinforce the garrisons along the eastern frontiers.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION.—The *Moniteur* announces that the Government has received telegraphic despatches from a great number of departments, announcing that the anniversary of the revolution of February had passed in the greatest tranquillity. In Paris the public tranquillity continued undisturbed the whole of Sunday and Sunday night, and not the slightest disposition to disorder was manifested anywhere. The façade of the National Assembly, as well as the steps of the same edifice, were illuminated. With the exception of a few establishments of associated barbers, cooks, &c., no private houses were illuminated. The base of the column of July was adorned with crowns of

immortelles. After the commemoration mass in the cathedral of Notre Dame, the celebrated orator, Father Lacordaire, preached a sermon. General Bedeau, the Vice-President of the Assembly, and a number of representatives, attended the ceremony.

SPAIN.

In both Chambers, on the 14th inst., Gen. Narvaes officially announced the certainty of that interesting event approaching in the Royal Family which has been so often announced and denied by the Spanish journals. The Queen's physicians have formally certified the probability of a succession to the throne in four months.

ITALY.

The following proclamation by General Baraguay d'Hilliers, dated the 11th inst., shows a worse state of things in Rome than previous accounts have disclosed:—

Inhabitants of Rome.—The General-in-chief, with a view of putting an end to the vile assassinations that endanger the lives of the officers and soldiers of the army, orders that no person shall henceforward carry about him knives, stiletos, or any instrument applicable to the perpetration of a crime. Whoever shall be found with such arms about his person shall be instantly shot. BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS.

The life of the Prince of Musignano, son of the Prince of Canino, was attempted on the 9th instant. While on the Corso with his sister, he lifted one of many bouquets thrown to him, and offered it to his sister, who was looking in another direction; an explosive concealed in the flowers burst in his hand. The Prince was badly but not dangerously wounded in the hand and thigh, and the Princess was slightly wounded in the leg. One hundred and fifty persons were arrested.

The *Nazionale* publishes a letter from Rome of the 13th, stating that upwards of 500 persons had been arrested since the preceding day. Most of the persons arrested are shopkeepers, functionaries, and persons in easy circumstances; even ladies had not been spared. On the 12th three or four Frenchmen more had been stabbed, and from forty to fifty persons arrested on that account.

The sentinel of the Campo Vaccino had been stabbed immediately after the publication of General Baraguay d'Hilliers's proclamation. Two trasteverini were to be shot on the 18th for having knives about them. The French and Roman police were actively engaged in stopping and searching people in the streets.

SWITZERLAND.

Letters from Geneva of the 19th inst. state that affairs in Switzerland are becoming every day more complicated, and the fermentation of the public mind greater. For the last fifteen days an incessant movement of the chief conspirators has been remarked both at Lausanne and Geneva, and correspondence exchanged with London and Paris. The secret committees are in permanence, and agents have set out in various directions.

Letters from the Jura of the 20th inst. state that Mazzini has definitely quitted Switzerland, and has proceeded to London. He passed through that department, and a few days before had been seen at Lons le Saulnier. The Council of State of Friburg had decreed the expulsion of five refugees for bad conduct.

PRUSSIA.

The *Cologne Gazette* says the King of Prussia is confined to his apartments in consequence of an accident he met with in walking.

The Lower House of the Prussian Parliament has unanimously voted an extraordinary supply of 18,000,000 thalers for the War-office.

On the 20th, the President of the Cabinet communicated to the members of the two House a royal message, from which it appears that the prorogation of the Prussian Parliament is to come off on the 26th inst.

On the 22nd inst., at midnight, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," in the case of thirty-six of the members of the National Assembly accused of exciting the people not to pay the taxes, but had found Bucher and three others guilty. The court on the following morning pronounced its sentence upon the convicted prisoners. Bucher and Plath were sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and loss of their respective offices (the former held a judicial office, and the latter that of a Burgermeister). The others were sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The Prussian Press law, as revised by the Parliamentary Committees, contains a provision compelling the newspaper proprietors to give bail to the amount of from 500 to 4,000 dollars, and a clause empowering judicial authorities to stop the circulation of foreign newspapers. Speaking of the new constitution, the correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"The constitution certainly does contain all the principles of public liberty; but side by side with the principle there is always a list of exceptions entirely destructive of the principle. The men of thought in Prussia have long since fully understood this system, and to what it must lead; and the people also are now beginning to understand it. And it is for this reason that the phrase is so frequently heard, 'We can do nothing but bide our time.'" Lord Palmerston is reported to have presented a note to the Prussian Court, declaring that all armed intervention in Swiss affairs would be a violation of international rights—although the relation of the canton of Neuchâtel to Prussia was a peculiar question.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

CONCLUSION OF PEACE.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*, under date February 21, says,

that on the 19th, a Conference of plenipotentiaries at Lord Westmoreland's house, the counter-project of Prussia for the settlement of the question was agreed to as the basis for the terms of peace. This counter-project allows a much more limited independence to Schleswig than will content the Duchies, which, according to the same scheme, are to be separated. The concessions made in this plan to Denmark are considerably greater than are required by the preliminaries of peace stipulated in July, and if they are not accepted there is very little hope of coming to any arrangement.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

A letter from Bucharest of the 4th inst. announces that the Russian troops in the Danubian provinces have received orders from St. Petersburg to evacuate those principalities on the 20th of the present month, with the exception a garrison of 10,000 men, with 30 pieces of canon.

GREECE.

Letters from Malta of the 18th instant state that her Majesty's steam-frigate "Odin" was the only ship at the Piræus, the fleet being still at Salamis. The smaller vessels—such as the Racer, Frolic, Rosamond, &c.—were distributed at Patras, Zante, and Corfu. Captures continue to be made of Greek vessels; the duty of blockading, as of capturing, devolves on the steamers. The merchants at Athens were getting weary of the check on commerce, and some had remonstrated with the Hellenic Government. At Athens the people were by no means disaffected towards the English. At Patras the feeling was more hostile, and was kept up by the fact of two war-boats being seized and towed to Corfu. The Consul had intimated to the English, who desired to land for the purpose of sporting, that he could not guarantee their safety from insult.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

M. LOUIS SPORER, the celebrated composer, while walking on the ice at Cassell, a few days since, fell, and cut his head so severely that fears are entertained for his life.

ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.—A correspondent of the *Times*, at Naples, writes on the 12th inst.:—"At this moment the Royal palace is between two fires! About a fortnight ago a shock of an earthquake was felt during a great storm, and a few days since the store of coals (250,000 quintals) became ignited. They were deposited in a vacuum extending from the arsenal to the palace of the Prince of Salerno, a vast hollow like the catacombs; of course, all the inmates immediately decamped, and the *sapeurs pompiers* are at work, having cleverly run up a wall to save great part of the coals from ignition, if possible. On the other side is Vesuvius in full eruption, presenting a finer spectacle than has been witnessed for many years. The lava flows in a north-easterly direction, over the estate of Prince Ottiano, doing great damage. The Carnival gaieties are now transferred from the *Toledo* to the saloons. Some fifty couples appeared in costumes of the reigns of Louis XIV. and XV., and formed quadrilles at the *soirées* of La Marquise de Ronda, Prince St. Antimo, and Princess Dentici. These brilliant parties closed the festive season while the thunders of Vesuvius shook every window in Naples." A letter from Naples announces the cessation of the eruption of Vesuvius on the 12th. The lava had found an issue on the southern side of the mountain towards Mauro d'Ottiano, and flowed down in three directions, the principal stream following the old bed. Notwithstanding this favourable circumstance, a good deal of damage has been done to property. Of three persons who had approached too near to witness the phenomenon more at their ease, one was killed, and the two others severely wounded by red-hot stones.

MR. WEBSTER AND THE HUNGARIANS.—The Hungarian exiles, who are now *free* guests at the celebrated Astor-house, lately called on Mr. Webster in a body. Mr. Webster, taking the hand of the venerable Ujhazy, late Governor of Comorn, said, "I give you my hand with great pleasure. We are glad to see you and your friends. The effort which you have so gallantly made for Hungarian nationality and Hungarian liberty has won our hearts. We welcome you to these Western shores. We are honoured that you have sought an asylum here, from the political misfortunes which you have suffered at home. Our sympathies are with you and for you, and for those objects of your affections which you have left behind you. The whole American people take an interest in your efforts for liberty and independence. The blow of power which struck down your hopes, fell heavily also on our own hearts. In the midst of your misfortunes, you come far away to a land of strangers in search of safety. Here, you find it. Here, we assure it to you. No enemy's hand shall harm or touch you. Hungarians, you are all welcome! You who have come, and your friends who shall come, will all find here sympathy, protection, and security." Ujhazy, when this speech was interpreted to him by Count Vaas, was affected to tears, and desired the Count to say "that God would not forget such considerate and such generous sympathy."

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—Mr. Grinnel, one of the merchant shipowners of New York, and formerly a member of Congress, has augmented his former subscription of 5,000 dollars towards the fitting out of an expedition to proceed in search of Sir John Franklin's party, to the princely donation of 15,000 dollars. It is intended that two small vessels of 160 and of 60 tons respectively shall proceed to Barrow's Straits in May next; and it is calculated that the

cost of such an expedition will not be more than 25,000 dollars.

THE ELDEST DAUGHTER OF M. GUIZOT is about to be married to M. de Witt, the lineal descendant of the celebrated Dutchman, Jean de Witt.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES IN THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.—A communication of great interest and importance has just been received by the London Missionary Society, from the Rev. David Livingston, dated "Banks of the River Zonga, Sept. 3, 1849," confirming the accounts recently published relative to new discoveries in the interior of Africa. Mr. Livingston, in company with Messrs. Murray and Oswell, has succeeded in crossing the large tract of country called the Desert—hitherto an insurmountable barrier to Europeans—and discovered a magnificent river of clear fresh water, the banks of which were beautiful beyond anything the travellers had ever seen, "except, perhaps, some parts of the Clyde." Gigantic trees lined the margin of the stream: two of the Boabab variety measured seventy to seventy-six feet in circumference. The farther the travellers ascended the river, the broader it became. "The fact that the Zonga is connected with large rivers coming from the north," says Mr. Livingston, "awakens emotions in my mind which make the discovery of the lake dwindle out of sight. It opens the prospect of a highway, capable of being quickly traversed by boats, to a large section of well-peopled territory." One remarkable feature in the river is its periodical rise and fall—supposed to be occasioned by the melting of snow in the mountains. The tribes upon its banks "seemed to understand the message of mercy delivered to them better than any people to whom I preached for the first time. How beautiful is the prospect thus unfolded! Ethiopia shall yet bend the knee and offer gifts."

THE DISPUTE ABOUT CERVY AND SAPIENZA.—Cervy is a low sand-heap, about half a mile in diameter, with one house upon it, unfinished, and only occasionally inhabited, principally by refugees. Sapienza is a rocky island of perhaps two miles long and half a mile wide, opposite the town and forte of Modoa. Its distance from the mainland, to which its length is parallel, is about a mile. Sapienza is inhabited by one or two Greek families, who have a few sheep and goats, but live principally by fishing.

Twenty-two French merchant vessels were totally lost during a terrific hurricane which prevailed on the coast of Algeria on the 27th and 28th of January last.

Reform Associations are springing up throughout Canada West. The members, amongst other things, pledge themselves to sustain their Government in reclaiming the Clergy Reserves and Rectories "from the use to which they have been misappropriated by High-church Toryism," and to devote them to some object "in which the people of all religious denominations have a common interest."

"ORGANIZATION OF LABOUR."—The journeymen tailors and others, who are attempting to form a co-operative society in Manchester, held a crowded meeting on Monday night week, Mr. Town Councillor Heywood in the chair. Among the speakers was a Mr. Stork, who stated that he and a few other working men in Salford had commenced, about twelve months ago, with a capital of only 7s. 6d., and they had then between £50 and £60. They had looms of their own, they bought yarn and wove their own cloth, and employed women to make it into shirts. For making these shirts they gave 6d., while others in the trade were only giving 3d. They also made hats, both of which articles he exhibited to the meeting, amidst loud cheers. A young man, who stated himself to be a baker, said that their body had suffered much, but they were determined to improve their condition. Some time ago they had resolved to pay 3d. a week each; with this they had rented a house, employed a person to take care of it, found fire, and light, and newspapers, for their members, and what was more, a good breakfast every day for every member who was out of work. Since then they had resolved to pay 2s. a week each to raise a capital to set their own men to work. They had already a considerable sum in hand, and it was their intention to redress the wrongs which they complained of in this way. They would go to the person whose system was most obnoxious to them, and respectfully ask for such a change as might be satisfactory to them. If the change was made, all would be right. If refused, they would immediately take a shop in the neighbourhood, and commence business on their own account. Another person stated a similar case, as having occurred in Leeds, among the engineers and mechanics, when a number of them had subscribed £1,100, some thirteen years ago, to employ themselves upon. They had gone on increasing every year from that day to this. They had paid £4,000 for the buildings, and at the last stock-taking they were worth more than £20,000 [loud cheers].

THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.—At the general half-yearly meeting of the North Western Railway Company, on Friday, a dividend of £2 10s. for the half-year, recommended by the Chairman, Mr. G. Carr Glynn, was carried in opposition to one of £2 15s. recommended by the report and the majority of the directors.

THE FARM LABOURERS of the district round West Lavington, Devizes, have been resisting an attempt to reduce wages from 7s. to 6s. a-week, by forcibly stopping farm operations. Some ringleaders having been arrested, more than a hundred men armed with staves marched to break open the prison; but they were deterred by a strong military detachment.

IRELAND.

THE ENCUMBERED ESTATES COMMISSION.—The second sale of land under the Encumbered Estates Act took place at Dublin on Thursday; the Commissioners acting publicly as their own auctioneers. The property was a feeding farm in Mayo, occupied by a good tenant. The bidders were all Irish gentlemen, and the purchaser was Mr. Pierce Joyce, of Galway, at £3,200—about twenty-three years' purchase. Dr. Longfield told Mr. Joyce that "a very small box would hold his conveyance," and he might pay the money and have the conveyance "this day if he desired it."

AN EXTERMINATION SCENE.—The following statement appears in the *Limerick Reporter*:—"On the 12th instant, two special bailiffs, under the warrant of the sub-sheriff, with four others, entered the lands of Rathleasty, near Borrisoleigh, the property of Mr. Cahill, to eject and take possession of the houses and six acres of land, held by the widow Connors and three children. The poor widow, seeing the messengers of woe enter, gave all sorts of resistance in the shape of throwing fire, boiling water, &c., on them, and after a desperate struggle, received a severe wound on the head, which laid her senseless on the ground; she was ultimately evicted."

BREAD RIOTS IN LIMERICK.—During the past week considerable excitement prevailed in Limerick, owing to the riotous manifestations of large mobs, who marched through the streets demanding bread. Several bread shops were broken into and plundered, and in one shop the till was rifled of money to the amount of £4. A large force of military and police paraded the streets on Thursday, and the police patrols were continued up to Saturday. Several of the rioters were brought before the magistrates, and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The great majority of them refused to go into the workhouse, and in parading the streets they frequently shouted "bread or blood."

CASTLEBAR INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.—This useful Society is busily engaged in the manufacture of friezes of very superior quality, together with a great variety of blanketing, sheeting, &c. The Castlebar board of guardians have contracted for every article of clothing and bedding needed in the workhouse, and the Earl of Lucan, as chairman of the board, has lent all his influence to give the utmost encouragement to the industry of the poor of the town. It is further stated that the neighbouring unions of Westport and Ballinrobe are giving their contracts to the society, whose productions—especially the friezes—have attained such a superiority as to excite a very considerable private demand.

SPREAD OF INCENDIARISM IN ULSTER.—Several more incendiary fires have occurred, and in most cases upon farms from which the previous occupiers had been removed.

LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—The first of the second (or spring) series of these popular entertainments was given at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday last. As usual, the attendance was very numerous and the applause loud and frequent. We are glad to observe that these concerts are conducted on a new and improved plan. The whole of the opening part was dedicated to a selection, vocal and instrumental, from the works of Mozart. Nor was this selection a mere pretext for stringing together a number of popular and well-known pieces by this universal master. The first piece was the superb orchestral symphony in G minor, which was played without curtailment, in a style that reflected equal credit on the band, whose neat and pointed execution was irreproachable, and on the conductor, Herr Anschuetz, who indicated the times with invariable correctness and decision. We have rarely, indeed, heard a band of 40 performers play with more decided effect. The symphony was listened to with strict attention, and loudly applauded at the end of each movement. Indeed the whole selection from Mozart was received with hearty applause. A sonata, for violin and piano, was brilliantly performed by Herr Ernst and Mr. Sterndale Bennett. A selection from *Don Giovanni* followed, in which Miss Rebecca Isaacs gave "Vedrai Carino" with much taste. The "Il mio tesoro" of Mr. Sims Reeves was a very artistic performance, and loudly applauded. Mrs. Newton sang "Batti, batti," with ease and elegance. An elaborate sextette, by the principal vocalists, was given with rare precision. The second part contained a selection from the *Huguenots*, in which Miss Dolby, Miss Eyles, Mr. Reeves, and Herr Formes, were much applauded, especially Herr Formes in the "Piff, paff." Some miscellaneous songs concluded the concert. This evening's entertainment includes, amongst other varieties, Beethoven's symphony in C minor and selections from Meyerbeer's "Le Prophète."

THE ROCHEDALE SAVINGS' BANK.—At a meeting, on Tuesday week, of the unfortunate depositors in this bank, a resolution was passed that a petition be sent to Parliament, praying that a deficiency of the funds be made up by a grant from that body. It was agreed that the thanks of the depositors be presented to the trustees and managers for their subscriptions, and that they be requested to continue their efforts in the neighbourhood, and more generally through the kingdom, till the whole amount of the money now due to the depositors be raised. The depositors' committee was re-appointed, and desired to continue their services till the bank was wound up.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, Feb. 27, Two o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords last night, Lord Beaumont presented a petition complaining of the Irish Encumbered Estates Act, and praying for its amendment. A conversation ensued, in which Earl Grey and the Lord Chancellor defended the Commissioners appointed under the act, while Lord Glen-gall denounced the measure itself as atrocious, and declared that the Commissioners were nothing more than a court of auctioneers.

Lord Montagu presented petitions complaining of the depreciation of railway property, and moved that the balance-sheet of all railway companies affected by any private bill should be laid before the House ten days before the second reading of such bill. The motion was agreed to.

Lord Mountcashell moved for copies of the testimonial, with the names of the parties subscribed to them, produced by Thomas Hammond, upon the faith of which he was last summer appointed surgeon to the emigrant ship "Una," together with the minutes made by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on those testimonials; and called the attention of the House to several cases in which the care of emigrants had been committed to incompetent or inexperienced surgeons. Earl Grey declared that the Mr. Hammond of the "Una" could not be the Mr. Hammond referred to by Lord Mountcashell, and read that gentleman's testimonials, which were of the very highest character. Lord Mountcashell was certain that he was right in his assertion, and the motion was agreed to. Their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston, in replying to a question put by Mr. Anstey, stated that no blockade, properly so called, had been established in the Piræus; that purely Greek vessels alone were detained, and that the commerce of neutrals was not interfered with.

After the presentation of a vast number of petitions upon the subject, Lord R. Grosvenor moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the attorneys' and solicitors' annual certificate duty. He proceeded to state the origin of the tax, and to explain its nature and operation. He insisted upon the intrinsic severity and partiality of the duty, and the injustice of continuing it after the legislature had, in various ways, diminished the profits of the profession; and he pointed out the injurious manner in which it acted upon the morals of attorneys, and through them upon the interests of the public. Mr. Hayter said the question involved a material diminution of the annual revenue, the amount received for these certificates being £120,000 a year. There were, however, considerations connected with this duty which affected other taxes of a similar kind, amounting to more than £1,500,000, which was too large a question to dispose of at the present moment. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer would lay his financial budget before the House on the 16th of March, he should move the adjournment of the debate until Friday, the 22nd of March, which, after some observations from Sir F. Thesiger, Mr. Cockburn, and Sir De Lacy Evans, was consented to.

Mr. W. J. Fox then moved for leave to bring in a bill to promote the secular education of the people of England and Wales. He acknowledged the difficulties which lay in the way of any scheme of Government education. These difficulties formerly arose from indifference; now they were caused rather by an excess of zeal. The efforts made to promote education reflected much honour upon both the religious parties engaged in this movement. The Church had put forth a magnificent degree of fervour and zeal in the work, and the Dissenters, the tried friends of education, who had laboured to spread instruction among all the poorer classes in bygone days, had made corresponding efforts of late with the same object, while the Committee of Privy Council for Education had, with great judgment and tact, sought to combine existing agencies and promote their efforts; and yet, what was the present state of this question? It was, that these great bodies were in hostile collision with one another. The result was, that the progress of education appeared to be stayed, and in some respects a retrograde movement had set in. This was a state of things most earnestly to be deprecated. He found that the Congregational Dissenters, who, a few years ago, said they would have nothing to do with the Government in the matter of education, and who declared their intention to raise 200,000, and show the Government that they were able to educate themselves, had failed in their purpose. Little more than £8,000 were in the hands of the directing committee, who were compelled to suspend their grants to Sunday-schools in poor districts; and in the last publication put forth by the National Society he found the following passage:—"The efficient annual support of schools continues a matter of greater difficulty than the building of schools, as it is found easier to rouse men to make one great effort than to induce them to pursue a steady and persevering interest in the work." But there was nothing to prevent Government from assisting the people to educate themselves. In various parts of the country there was an educational movement which the Legislature should recognise; and there was a general impression, that secular education was necessary to give to religious education its full efficiency. There was another reason why the time had come for taking a further step in this matter in the fact, that this nation was not sup-

porting, in this respect, its high character in comparison with other nations; and he showed that, in England, the highest proportion of the population attending schools—including every kind of school—was only 1 in 84, and the education was deficient, not only in extent, but in quality. From the statistics of crime he inferred, that education, as now administered, had had comparatively little effect in the abatement of criminality: the great increase in the relative proportions of criminals was in those who could read and write imperfectly. To prevent religious instruction being checked and restricted, it ought always to be accompanied with such instruction as would give it its full force on the mind, and elicit its best results upon the heart and the character. Out of 6,000 children who had been imprisoned, 3,000 had attended Sunday-schools, to say nothing of other schools. Report after report might be quoted, all showing analogous results, and chaplains and governors of gaols, and inspectors of prisons, all appeared to have come to the same conclusion as to the need of secular instruction and intellectual training in order to make religious instruction valuable. Mr. Horace Mann, the well-known American educator, who not long ago made an educational tour through Europe, said:—

After the particular attention which I gave to this subject, both in England and Scotland, I can say without any exception, that in those schools where religious creeds and forms of faith, or modes of worship, were directly taught, I found the common doctrines and injunctions of morality, and the meaning of the perceptive parts of the gospel to be much less taught and much less understood by the pupils, than in the same grade of schools and by the same classes of pupils, with us.

To this he would add the views of a not less intelligent European traveller, Sir C. Lyell, who, in a recently-published work said of America that, "the clergy were becoming more and more convinced that, where the education of the millions was carried farthest, the people were most regular in their attendance on public worship, most zealous in the defence of their theological opinions, and most liberal in contributing funds for the support of their pastors and the building of churches" [hear, hear]. Mr. Fox then explained the provisions of the bill he desired to lay before the House, the main features of which were, that the deficiency of the means of education in parishes should be ascertained by Government inspectors, and that the neighbourhood should be invited to supply it by electing an education committee, to be empowered to rate the inhabitants for the improvement of the old and the establishment of new and free schools, with a better system of education, or rather of instruction. As to religion, he would reserve to the parents the inalienable right, at certain convenient times fixed, to have their children instructed where and by whom they pleased. He proposed that, on leaving the school, each child whose conduct had been satisfactory to the masters should have a present of books, of which the holy Scriptures should always form a portion, thus putting the child in possession of the sacred volume at a time when he was most prepared to come under the influence of its moral precepts. If instances should occur where a locality was so careless or so neglectful of its duty as not to undertake the education of the district, he would call on the Committee of Council on Education to step in and not allow that locality to become a sink of ignorance, prejudice, vice, a disgrace to itself, and a nuisance to all the surrounding districts. He would give to the masters salaries of which he would fix the minimum at such a rate as would insure a considerable degree of respectability in their social position. As of the poet, so it might be said of the schoolmaster, "*nascitur, non fit*." There were tendencies in some minds that led them to sympathize with children, feel the difficulties of children, to conciliate their perverseness, and to train them up, for the lack of which no amount of learning could ever compensate [hear, hear]. He would throw the competition for masters perfectly open, and would make their qualifications, and especially their aptitude for teaching, the great test of each, and would reward them accordingly. Their functions were in reality such as might well be deemed sacred, and they deserved the best honours the State could bestow. There was another class of persons whose co-operation was of the utmost importance in working out any system of education—he meant the working people, whose children were to be instructed and trained. Amongst that class, whose intelligence was underrated by those who had not the advantage of personal communication with them, a sturdy intellect and moral sense prevailed which recoiled from charity; and whatever they might think of their feelings, rights, and privileges, he thought this sturdiness of intellect, which was invariably the result of self-cultivation, though it might not be accompanied by external culture, was entitled to respect. These people were indisposed to send their children to schools when they found them used for the purpose of proselytism, and thus a suspicion of their intentions was generated, which he regretted to say was not always unwarranted. Mr. Fox estimated the cost of the experiment, taking no credit for the diminution of the expenditure on account of crime, &c., at a very insignificant poundage; and concluded with an eloquent appeal to the House.

He prayed the House to think of the condition of thousands upon thousands of children in this country, to think of the crimes that had thriven on soils from which they had hoped it was entirely banished, and which they wished to see pre-occupied by better seed, to think of those localities which continued to send forth their "hordes of untutored savages" upon society, who seemed to derive from civilization itself only facilities for becoming more unwholesome annoyances to it—he would have them think of the overcrowded gaols,

the hulks, and the reluctant colonies—he would have them think of the peace, quiet, and good order which would spread amongst the homes of the well-disposed, by the general training and moral culture of the people—he would have them look to the higher motives of patriotism, and consider that the intellect and moral lustre of their country had been a glory superior to that even of its supremacy in arts and arms—he would have them look to the yet higher objects, which, when the purposes of civil society had been accomplished, still remained to be realized in the individual, who, by the means which they could afford him, would be better qualified to fulfil the great purposes for which he had been formed by a beneficent Creator [loud cheers].

Mr. SLANEY seconded the motion. Lord JOHN RUSSELL supported it, giving no opinion on the measure itself. Sir R. INGLES would not oppose its introduction, but hoped the ultimate assent of the House would not be given to a national system of education to terminate with this world, leaving it to the ignorant fathers and mothers of the pupils to enlighten them on the subject of their hopes hereafter. Mr. MILNES deprecated further discussion. Mr. HUMS complained that Sir R. Ingles had misapprehended and misstated the objects of the member for Oldham. Mr. PLUMPTRE understood that in the proposed new schools there was to be no religious instruction whatever. Against this principle he protested, and would never give his consent to it. Mr. OSBORNE offered his tribute of gratitude to Mr. Fox for the enlarged and statesmanlike views with which he had addressed himself to this question. Mr. NAPIER concurred in the encomiums passed upon Mr. Fox, and hoped that an opportunity would be afforded for discussing the subject of national education in the spirit he had displayed. Mr. COCKBURN protested against the view taken of the measure by Sir R. Ingles. After a few observations from Mr. MILNES, Mr. LAW, and Mr. NEWBOLT, Mr. Fox said, his position was this—that they could not give real religious instruction unless they bestowed on the mind so much of other knowledge that religion could take deep root in the soil. He fully admitted the necessity and benefit of religious education; as, in his opinion, secular without religious education would be a teaching of words without principles. But he did not believe that the mountains and the stars taught infidelity, or the waves and winds heresy. He should not press the second reading till after the Easter recess.—Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. FITZROY moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend the jurisdiction of the County Courts to £50. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL was not inclined to interpose an objection to the introduction of the bill; but he suggested, amongst other reasons against the extension of their jurisdiction, that the experiment of these courts had not been yet properly tried, and that the giving or not giving an appeal above £20 was only a choice of evils. After Sir GEORGE PROBERT and Mr. CLAY had spoken in favour of the bill, and Mr. HENLEY against it, Sir G. GREY said he did not deny that there was a very strong feeling in the country in favour of the extension of the jurisdiction of these courts, and the House would be better able to discuss the proposition when the bill was before it; but he cautioned the House to proceed with care, lest the utility of these courts should be destroyed. After some further discussion, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. HUMS then moved a resolution for allowing a drawback on bricks and timber employed in the construction of cottages, with the view of increasing the means of affording house accommodation to the labouring poor, urging the strong claims of this class. Mr. LABOUCHERE repeated the objection with which the motion of Lord R. Grosvenor had been met; viz., that it was desirable to suspend questions of remission of taxes until the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made his financial statement; but, independent of this, he objected to the resolution on its own merits. Mr. DRUMMOND, in supporting the motion, explained the unjust way in which he considered the tax on bricks operated. After some discussion, Mr. HUMS withdrew his motion.

Mr. RICARDO obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of railway traffic; and Lord ELMYN, a bill to amend the laws relative to highways in South Wales.

Mr. LUCY moved for leave to bring in a bill for promoting extramural interments. Sir G. GREY and Lord ASHLEY suggested that the subject should be deferred until the Board of Health had made their report, when the whole question would come before the House; and it was ultimately withdrawn.

Mr. MOFFATT moved for a return of the names of the members of the Board of Trade, their functions, the number of times they met last year, &c. Mr. LABOUCHERE objected to the return.

The other orders having been disposed of, the House adjourned at 12 o'clock.

"Fashion is so strong," said a "ladies' shoemaker" the other day, to the correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*; "a lady lately bought a pair of shoes of me, thinking they were made in Paris. In the course of conversation I told her they were made by my own men in London, and she has never had such a shoe from me since—much as she admired them."

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27.

The arrivals of grain this week are short, particularly of Wheat, but again fair of Flour. In our trade we have a continued dullness for every article, without variation in price. Most of the country and provincial markets held yesterday were also very dull.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 1,220 qrs. Barley—English, 4,090 qrs.; Foreign, 1,140 Oats—English, 6,590 qrs. Flour—4,510 sacks.

From its extensive circulation—far exceeding most of the journals of a similar character published in London—the *Nonconformist* presents a very desirable medium for Advertisements, especially those relating to Schools, Books, Articles of General Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious Objects. The terms are low:—

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Chas. Rose." We think our correspondent could not do better than send his petitions in favour of Mr. Wood's Affirmation Bill to that gentleman himself, or to Sir E. Buxton, for presentation to the House of Commons. The bill stands for second reading this day.

"J. B. M." Beggs's "Elevation of the Working Classes" (published by Gilpin) is the first that occurs to us; Sidney Smith's "Mother Country; or, Condition of England Question" (Kendrick, Mansion-house-street, London), would be very useful; as also the recent prize essays on "Juvenile Depravity" (Gilpin).

"Q. S. D." Yes.

Thanks to our Nayland correspondent for his information.

"M. K." Although strongly opposed to the principle of State Churches, we greatly object to all kinds of sectarian reflections upon them.

"A Lay Presbyterian." We see no good end to be answered by broaching that painful subject in our columns.

"An Anti-state-churchman." We have carefully looked through the article, but find it so meaningless as to deem it unworthy of notice.

"Forward." Next week, if we can find room.

The communication from Wakefield has been received—we are afraid we can make but little use of it.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27, 1850.

SUMMARY.

THE insipid and sluggish course of the Parliamentary session has been unexpectedly rendered turbulent, by the conclusion of the debate on Mr. Disraeli's motion. The division disclosed, both to the House and to the world, the startling fact, that the Protectionist party have become strong enough effectually to harass, if not, within a short period, to destroy the Whig Cabinet. In a House of 525 members, Ministers could obtain only a majority of 21 votes. The spirits of the landocracy, of late so cowed, are mightily refreshed, and the old opposition, recovering from the blow which four years back completely stunned it, has once more got upon its legs, and lustily exclaims, "Reform avant! Richard's himself again!"

We have already described the tenour of Mr. Disraeli's proposition; and, in the subjoined article, have told our readers what, in our judgment, it practically amounts to. Our remarks, therefore, in this place, will be confined to the salient points of the debate. Mr. Disraeli, less brilliant, perhaps, than usual, somewhat more moderate in tone, and certainly less effective in argument, conceded free-trade as an established fact, settled by such majorities, in both Houses, as to preclude the useful discussion of it again until after an appeal has been made to the constituencies. On this ground he claimed, on behalf of the landlord class, that relief from excessive local taxation to which, according to his statement, they had been subjected, simply in consequence of the favour they had previously enjoyed. Sir George Grey showed, by a mass of irrefragable evidence, that land, as distinguished from other realized property, is continually becoming more valuable, and consequently better able to bear the burdens imposed upon it; whilst, at the same time, the burdens themselves are yearly diminishing, in consequence of being more largely shared by other parties. Sir James Graham advised caution in opening up the question of the comparative liabilities, for public objects, of the land-proprietary class and other classes of the community; and characterised Mr. Disraeli's proposition as the commencement of a revolution which could hardly end well to those who were seeking to gain by it. Mr. Gladstone, amidst the cheers of the Protectionists, and tired, no doubt, of the insignificance to which his neutral position has consigned him, professed that he would be guided simply by the merits of the question, that he would not look beyond it, and that, confining his view to the demands now made, and seeing in them nothing unreasonable in themselves, he would aim to give them effect by his vote. Sir Robert Peel made merry with the simplicity of his former subordinate, and,

on several grounds, forcibly stated, resisted the proposal, as impolitic and absurd. Lord John Russell was, perhaps, somewhat more caustic than is his wont, foreseeing, probably, that the division would be a close one; and Mr. Disraeli's personal bitterness was reserved for his reply. The result of the debate we have already stated. Mr. Gladstone took over with him to the Protectionist leader twenty votes, in addition to his own. Some few Whigs found their way, also, into the enemy's camp. Upwards of 250 members joined the Member for Buckinghamshire in his daring attempt to appropriate to the richest and smallest class of the community, the whole of the anticipated surplus on the year's revenue.

The consequences of this vote were not long in developing themselves. The Irish Franchise Bill, a measure forced upon the Whigs by the necessity of the case, and worthy of praise—not so much on its own account, as on account of the direction in which it looks—although allowed to be read a second time on Friday, without a division, was mercilessly attacked, on Monday, by a joint band of English Protectionists and Irish landlords, who had dined previously to going down to the House, that the calls of appetite might not divert them from the work of faction. Their leader, Mr. Disraeli, objected to go into committee on the bill, on the flimsy pretext that several Irish members were absent, in discharge of their legal duties at the assizes. Lord John refused to give way; thereupon the forms of the House were unshrinkingly employed to force him into a concession of the desired delay. Again and again the House divided; again and again the same question was renewed; until lapse of time rendered further contest useless, and the Premier's determination to press on the Bill was, for the present, set aside. There can be little doubt, we think, that the measure, paltry as it is, will be ultimately shorn of all its practical value—a result which, if we may judge them by the rest of their proceedings, the Whigs themselves will scarcely deplore.

Other Parliamentary topics are of minor importance. Mr. Frewen has obtained for his bill for restricting pluralities in Church benefices, a second reading, but not without an intimation from the Government that they will not consent to go into committee until they have had time to consult ecclesiastical authorities. Mr. Halsey, supported by the Poor-law Commissioner, Mr. Baines, has carried the second reading of the Small Tenements Rating Bill, which empowers vestries to transfer from the occupier to the owner the rates on property under £8 a year—thus compelling the poorest of the poor, by a process unseen to themselves, to take their share of local burdens. Mr. Moffat was not equally fortunate in his Bankrupt and Insolvent Debtors Bill. We are glad of it. We think constituencies should be the sole judges of what is necessary to qualify a Member of Parliament, and we can only wonder at the inconsistency of a House which requires a pecuniary qualification from its members previously to their entrance, but deems it unnecessary to take notice of subsequent insolvency.

The Lords have not been busy. They are passing at leisure the Ecclesiastical Commissioners Bill, upon the interests affected by which they talk more or less in conformity with their High-Church prejudices; and we are not sorry to observe that the whip has been held over the heads of the recipients of *Regium Donum* in Ireland, in consequence of the indiscreet partizanship of some Presbyterian clergyman. The implied threat is, "You had better be quiet, or perhaps you will lose your pay!"

Foreign topics we must dismiss in a single paragraph. Democracy, overpowered for the present on the continent, sits sullen and brooding, waiting another opportunity for asserting its strength. The anniversary of the last French Revolution has been passed over in quiet—the Republicans observing it as a day of mourning, rather than festivity; whilst, in Rome, all the power of the priesthood is insufficient to make the people take part in the once attractive gaieties of the Carnival. Terms of peace, it is said, are now definitely arranged between the diplomatists who are occupied with the Schleswig-Holstein affair. Prussia is gradually settling down into constitutional government—limited, it is true, by many checks, but allowing room for a considerable play of popular opinion and feeling. Greece yet holds out against our own blockade, but discovers symptoms of distress, and will probably ere long yield. The most troubled point, just now, is Switzerland, from which country, we may receive startling intelligence before long.

A DARING ATTEMPT TO ROB THE TILL.

CONGRATULATIONS, in a variety of shapes, sometimes homely, sometimes elegant, but always cheerful, have been offered to the country in great profusion during the last two months, on account of the surplus revenue in the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Various, also, have been the proposals touching the manner in which this

little stroke of good fortune may be most beneficially turned to account. One party suggests a repeal of all those taxes which tend to abridge the ordinary means for the diffusion of knowledge. Another seeks the removal of those fiscal impediments which restrict the free circulation of light and air. This class is anxious to confer advantage upon "the unwashed," by lightening the present cost of cleanliness—that would increase the comforts of the poor, and give fresh stimulus to manufacturing industry, by lowering, to some extent, the duty on tea. Our officials, always anxious to be in a safe condition for borrowing, seem to have made up their minds to apply the surplus in part payment of the Irish loan. It is not our purpose, just now, to discuss the relative merits of these several propositions, but simply to point attention to the fact, that the possibility of entertaining them now, or for an indefinite period to come, has been all but put out of our reach by the daring cupiditry of the landlord class. Led on by Mr. Disraeli, this small, but powerful, section of society has made a move to appropriate to its own use, as a compensatory instalment for the loss of the corn-laws, the whole sum by which the annual income of the empire is said to have exceeded the expenditure, and, in a House of Commons assumed to represent the will of the people, this unblushing attempt to "rob the till" has been prevented by a majority of some twenty votes only.

Perhaps there never has been an instance in which territorial influence has more unscrupulously sought to gratify selfish aggrandisement at the expense of hard toiling industry, than in the case before us. On the plea, that agriculture is languishing, which, translated into plain language, means that rents are so high as to allow of a very insufficient margin of profit to the farmers, Mr. Disraeli proposed to relieve realized property of local taxation to the extent already mentioned, by casting the burden upon the consolidated fund, or, in other words, upon that labour which pays the bulk of our annual taxation. The proposal, in the present state of affairs, amounts to this. The diffusion of knowledge amongst the people, regard to their sanitary condition, the promotion of their cleanliness, the increase of their comforts, the creation of employment, the payment in part, at least, of heavy engagements—all are as nothing compared with the maintenance of the present scale of rents. Landlord extravagance must be furnished with the wherewithal of lavish and luxurious expenditure, prior to any consideration whatever of popular claims. Our books and political information must be so enhanced in price as to render them inaccessible to a large section of the masses; our houses must continue to be badly built, imperfectly ventilated, and barred the free ingress of the light of heaven; our domestic comforts must be seriously curtailed, and our heavy liabilities continued, until the ruling classes, under such pretences as their shame or their cunning can devise, have helped them to their heart's content out of the public purse, and have extracted from the sweat of labour, and the wretchedness of an overburdened population, a sufficiency of pecuniary means to justify the continuance of their own profusion. This, in truth, is the simple meaning of Disraeli's motion. In one scale are placed popular education, public health, social comfort, imperial credit—in the other are flung exaggerated rents. And there wanted but the transference of but ten votes from the majority to the minority to produce an equipoise.

The system of protection, as protection, is gone—the spirit which once animated it still remains. It revisits us in another shape. Its attributes and objects are the same as ever. It aims to prey upon industry, to gorge itself with the flesh and blood of overstrained labour. Out of the hard earnings of those who work, it would filch a sufficient sum to maintain its own costly and magnificent establishments. Defeated just now by a narrow majority, its instincts lead us to anticipate that it will again and again renew its nefarious attempt. Already it has won over an accession of votes from the ranks of its professed opponents, large enough to make it formidable. A few stragglers more or less willingly caught by party guile will serve to place it in the ascendant. It will watch its opportunities. It will avail itself of every facility which lies within its reach—step by step, it will gain upon its half-hearted foes. The time is, probably, not far distant when it will spring into power. And, once again, the actual proceedings of the House of Commons, released from that constraint which has of late given them the outward shape of disinterestedness, will correspond with the real desires and actual temper of the majority of its members; and monopoly, under another guise, will be once more enthroned.

We gave it as our decided opinion nearly eight years ago, that if by any chance the repeal of the corn-laws should be carried, save as the result of a large extension of the franchise, the land-owners of this country, who have got almost exclusive possession of political power, would speedily exert themselves to recover, in some other form, the advantage they had been compelled to surrender.

None can rejoice more heartily than we do, at the extinction of the food monopoly—none appreciate more fully the part taken by the Anti-corn-law League, to bring about that most auspicious result. Now, however, that the restrictive system has been legislatively condemned and destroyed, it will appear, we think, to every impartial observer that the work is but half done. The root out of which the corn-laws sprang, remains in the soil, as living and vigorous as ever. Every year it will put forth new shoots in place of that single stem which has happily been cut down. The appearance of free-trade will doubtless be preserved—the policy which free-trade supposes will be given up as soon as possible. The wealthy classes will still fatten upon the industrious, and titled idleness will draw its supplies, as heretofore, from unrepresented labour. The form of the evil will be changed, whilst the evil itself will continue unchecked.

We are glad, however, that a strong Protectionist opposition is at last formed, and that the do-nothing policy of the Whig Cabinet is certain to prove an insufficient barrier against the progress and triumph of their official adversaries. Lord John Russell seemed to regard himself, at the commencement of the session, as strong enough to despise the aid of the people. He is probably undeceived by this time. And, if firmly dealt with by the representatives of large constituencies, he may be either coerced into a more liberal line of conduct, or he should be left to feel his weakness against the common foe. At any rate, we foresee, as we think, an early and decisive contest between the few and the many. The days of sham-fighting are drawing to a close. We shall have more serious work anon.

A FACTION FIGHT ON OLD GROUND.

"LARGE and comprehensive" was the phrase employed by Sir Robert Peel to describe the measures with which he inaugurated his new policy and principles some years since—a phrase rendered popular by being used as a gibe by his opponents, and an eulogy by his friends. It is a phrase which no one would think of applying, in the latter sense, to any of the measures introduced by the present Ministry. Paltry, pettifogging, make-shift, are the epithets that best describe whatever emanates from the brain of Whig statemanship. A race of dwarfed, stunted, little-minded politicians, they have not their parallel for insignificance, except in the degenerate set—the Percivals and Sidmouths—who succeeded the gladiatorial giants of the age of Pitt and Fox. They serve well to exemplify the class who are said to have "greatness thrust upon them" in opposition to those who "achieve it"—and to illustrate what is deemed by some, the peculiar excellence of our vaunted constitution, that it is a system of checks and incessant counter-action.

Whatever they do, partakes of their own character. Pigmies as they are, their works have nothing Titanic about them; whatever of the bull-frog there may be about themselves. They attempt nothing till it can be no longer delayed, and then do but just enough to satisfy the emergency—gaining in the doing neither honour nor gratitude. Thus is it—to take the last instance that has occurred—with their Irish Parliamentary Voters Bill; an attempt, begun and deferred, session after session, to repair the ravages which time and recent social calamities have made upon the Irish constituencies. So long as the representation of Ireland presented but an extreme illustration of representative anomalies, the most fictitious of constitutional fictions, the thing was let alone. When it became likely to prove a Ministerial inconvenience, a partial remedy was offered to the Legislature; and when the prosecution of that remedy to its final adoption proved yet more inconvenient, it was committed to the chances of another session. Now the matter has become serious—another registration under the existing law may extinguish several constituencies—and, besides, something was promised to be done for Ireland in the royal Speech—more than all, the Protectionist interest, already alarmingly powerful in Ireland, would be irresistible, if the popular element were not strengthened. So Ministers arouse themselves. The former proposal is re-introduced, tinkered into a tolerably good, though miserably inadequate, measure, and pushed forward with as much haste as is consistent with dignity. It might have passed smoothly enough but for last Thursday's division—the revelation to the Protectionists of their own strength. On Friday night there was a brisk debate. Several of those gentry, with the hatred of the party to whatever looks like an amendment of the representation, condemned the measure as giving too democratic a complexion to the electoral lists; while Mr. Hume complained, with more reason, that it left the Irish worse off than the Dutch and Hottentot settlers of the Cape, as to representation, and Mr. Reynolds showed that it would leave the worst evil of the system—the old non-resident freemen and spurious voters—untouched. The second reading, however, was got through without

a division. But on Monday night, an opposition was organized and worked, which must have alike surprised and harassed the easy-going occupants of the Treasury benches. Eight times, in half that number of hours, was the House divided, in the attempt to get the bill into committee—the opposition demanding delay on the pretext that many Irish members were absent, and that the principle of the bill had not been sufficiently discussed. In reality, however, this was the first of those faction fights which are common when parties become critically balanced, and which we may frequently expect now that we have once more a regular opposition—250 strong, united under a leader able alike in debate and tactics, backed by powerful interests in the Upper House and out of doors, and only confronted, immediately, by a coalition of fragmentary parties; the one section of which would be glad enough to desert the other, if thereby they could succeed them in the seat of office—while that other is compelled to lean for support upon those whom they have the best reason to mistrust, those, namely, whose cause they have systematically betrayed, and whose claims they will reject with contemptuous coolness when their aid is no longer needed.

It is this last party—the party of the people and of progress—with which, after all, we are alone concerned. It is so long since we expected anything from the men now in power, that we cannot profess disappointment at the course which they have recommenced; but the absence of any such feeling leaves the more room for indignant disgust. By no softer words can we express the emotions justly excited by the habits of trickery which seem to have deepened into settled policy with the Whig Cabinet. It would be stone-blind stupidity not to see, and the mawkish affectation of charity not to declare, that the Ministry are staking their hopes of official existence throughout the session on the opposition of the country party. Disraeli may be very annoying, but he is not less valuable. So long as he threatens, the Free-traders and Reformers may be commanded—if he presses on his success to a majority and a dissolution, the Liberal constituencies may be relied on—Whiggery, in either case, may leave its enemies to quarrel for its advantage, and float back on the victorious tide. The conventional morality of politics may justify this as quite fair, and even praise it as very clever. Tried by a higher standard, such manoeuvring with circumstances, such trafficking with principles is base and perfidious. But what must we say of those who thus suffer themselves and the interests confided to them, to be played with as counters or pitted as fighting-cocks? What, but that self-respect and fidelity to truth dictate rebellion against such ignominious treatment? What, but that either their sagacity or their earnestness is grievously deficient if they suffer the game to go on another hour? There are eighty men in the House who are pledged to make it virtually as well as nominally the People's House, and who show enough of unanimity on certain occasions to prove that they can act together if they will. Now, why are not they in better discipline—as they might be without compromising individual independence? With the fortunes of war in their hands, why do they not resolutely refuse to march under any banner that does not bear the inscription of Parliamentary Reform—and at least extort from the fears of oligarchic Free-traders what cannot be won from them by appeals to their sense of logical progress and practical necessity?

WATER IN PURITY AND PLENTY.

It is curious and humiliating to observe how slow are mankind to learn the lessons that most immediately concern them, and that seem most easy of acquirement. The normal necessities of our nature—those to which civilization adds a host of artificial wants, but does nothing to lessen in number or intensity—are precisely those for which it makes the least provision. Bread and water—identified not less by the earliest traditions of sacred history and the remains of immemorial antiquity than by personal experience and daily usage, with the indispensable conditions of animal existence—are probably to this day as deficient in supply and imperfect in quality to the mass of our fellow-creatures, as when the patriarchs baked their cakes beside a wood fire, or the daughter of Laban watered her sheep at the well from which Jacob rolled the stone in the sunset of an oriental evening. Yet more strange and humbling—the ruins of ancient Rome, the excavations of Pompeii, and the mounds that mark the sites of earth's eldest cities, Nineveh and Thebes, disclose aqueducts, fountains, and baths, which are inland seas and artificial rivers compared with our meagre waterworks and slender pipes. London, like Babylon, its ancient prototype, stands upon either bank of a noble stream—planted there by an instinct as unfailing in the human mind as that which in the inanimate earth raises the palm and willow beside the water-course; but we, unlike the citizens of a capital we despise for barbaric grandeur, poison the stream that flows to our

doors the wealth of climes varied as the skies, and that should carry health to every home on its shores; and—climax of absurdity!—charter monopolists with the privilege to sell back to us, at a dear rate, the water we have made too noxious to be drunk if it cost us nothing.

Innumerable as are the uses of this element, one would have supposed that to obtain it in plentiful and pure supply for all classes of citizens, would be one of the first duties of a municipality; and that when it was discovered that arrangements once, perhaps, expedient enough, had become obstructive or mischievous, no time would be lost in providing adequate appliances. So strong, however, is the power of wealthy corporations to hold what they have obtained, or such is the indisposition of constituted authorities and commercial communities to interfere with factitious rights, so long as they do not violate order or palpably infringe on liberty, that not till the pestilential vapours ever ascending from the bosom of the Thames, had been shed down upon us by the breath of a polluted wind—the invisible seeds of sudden disease and death—could the dwellers in London, Westminster, and Southwark, be convinced of the necessity of energetic, decided effort in this particular. We have now before us an indication that large and beneficial changes will ere long be effected—the publications of the Metropolitan Parochial Water-supply Association. The executive committee of this Association consist, it appears, of parochial officers, and their movements are seconded by the various districts which they represent. Their address contains much valuable information on the subject. We can only quote from it the general facts, that out of 320,000 habitations in the metropolis, 80,000—containing a fourth of the whole population—are wholly unsupplied with water; that the supply is, in the great majority of cases, insufficient; that in nearly all, it is unfit for alimentary use, being unfiltered, even when drawn from the river, which is made the great common sewer of the city; and that the supply thus deficient in quantity and positively pernicious in quality, is charged at double or treble the price for which a constant, unlimited, and pure supply could be provided. The proposed remedial measures are, the removal of the power of water-supply from the hands of interested parties, to those of local, responsible authorities; the advantages of a large combination of mechanical agencies being at the same time secured. For the authorization of the scheme, it is intended to apply to Parliament; and when the subject comes before us in that shape, we may devote to it more space—in the meantime, urging it upon the attention of sanitary reformers in their parochial capacities.

REPEAL OF THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—On Wednesday evening a meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Manchester, of parties interested in the repeal of the duties upon paper, upon stamps for newspapers, and of the duty on advertisements. The meeting was numerously attended, principally by journeymen printers of the town. Mr. Abel Heywood presided, and addresses were given, principally by the printers themselves, who moved resolutions condemnatory of the three duties before alluded to. A petition to Parliament having been adopted, praying for the removal of all taxes on knowledge, thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

REFORM ASSOCIATION AT MANCHESTER.—A room has been taken by the Manchester branch of the National Reform Association, in Newall's-buildings, immediately over the rooms occupied by the Manchester Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association, where the committee held their first meeting on Monday night week. Mr. George Thompson M.P., had come down from London especially to be present, and it is proposed to make an appeal as early as possible to the friends of the movement in Manchester, with a view to the enrolment of members, who are to be admitted on payment of 1s. each. Amongst the gentlemen present were Mr. Abel Heywood, the Rev. J. Schofield, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Hervey, and Mr. Morris, alderman of Salford. One of the first proceedings of the meeting was to form a council to preside over and conduct the future business of the branch association, and the gentlemen above-named, together with Mr. Whyatt, who occupied the chair on this occasion, and others, were elected members of it. Mr. Thompson addressed the meeting at some length, offering his services in any way to promote the wishes of the association, by addressing meetings in different parts of the country, which might be summoned hereafter. One of these meetings took place on Friday evening at the Temperance-hall, Grosvenor-street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, for the enrolment of members, when Mr. Thompson addressed the meeting, explanatory of the objects of the association.

THE SOUTHAMPTON FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—The number of shares now taken is about 200, and daily accessions are received.—*Hants Independent.*

THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The new chamber for the Commons is now so far completed that it will, according to present intentions, be used for the day sittings of the House on the Wednesdays after Easter.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Taxes on Knowledge, for repeal of, 11, 3, 3, 3.
Post-office, for abolition of Sunday labour, 87, 85, 87, 86.
Rating of Small Tenements Bill, in favour of, 3.
Tithe Commutation Act, for alteration, 1.
Agriculture, for relief of, 4, 2, 2.
County Rates, &c., Bill, in favour of, 3, 2, 1.
Education (Ireland), for alteration of present system, 11, 14, 1.
Electric Franchise, for extension of, 2.
Metropolitan water, for better supply, 1.
Slave-trade, for suppression of, 1.
Tea, for reduction of duty on, 1, 1.
Marriages Bill, against, 1, 1.
in favour of, 3.
Ministers' Money (Ireland), for abolition of, 3.
Small Debts Act, for amendment of, 1, 2.
Timber Duty, for repeal of, 1.
Window Tax, for repeal of, 1, 1.
Attornies Certificates, for repeal of duty on, 30.
Beer Shops, for diminishing the number of, 1.
Bishops, for an increase of, 1.
Factories Act, for amendment of, 1.
National Cemeteries, in favour of, 1.
Ocean Penny Postage, in favour of, 1.
Receipts, for repeal of duty on, 1.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

Public Libraries and Museums Bill.
Money Payment of Wages (Ireland) Bill.
Wooden Forests, &c., Bill.
Greenwich Hospital Improvement Bill.
Registrar of Metropolitan Public Carriages Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Small Tenements Rating Bill.
Ben-fices in Plurality Bill.
Larceny Summary Jurisdiction Bill.
Tenants at Rack Rent Relief Bill.
Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Bill.
Elections (Ireland) Bill.
Estates Leasing (Ireland) Bill.
Judgments (Ireland) Bill.
Commons Inclosure Bill.

BILLS CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Parliamentary Voters, &c. (Ireland) Bill.
Pirates (Head-Money) Repeal Bill.
Commons Inclosure Bill.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

Party Processions (Ireland) Bill.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

[Since our last.]

Tuesday, February 26. Mr. Lacy—Bill for promoting Extramural Interments.

Wednesday, February 27. Sir Frederick Thesiger—On Second Reading of Marriages Bill, to move, That it be read a second time that day six months.

Friday, March 1. Sir Benjamin Hall—To present two petitions from certain allottees of the National Land Company, complaining of the conduct of the chief promoter of that Company, and praying the House to take their case into consideration.

.... Mr. Headlam—Bill to amend and extend certain of the provisions of an Act made in the 8th and 9th year of her present Majesty, intituled, An Act to facilitate the conveyance of Real Property.

Tuesday, March 5. Mr. Stanford—Bill for the more effectual Audit of Railway Accounts.

Thursday, March 7. Mr. Wood—Bill to prevent the holding of vestry or other meetings in Churches, and for regulating the appointment of Vestry Clerks.

.... Viscount Melgund—To submit a Motion to the House for the reform and extension of the School Establishment of Scotland.

Soon after Easter. Lord Ashley—Address to the Crown on the subject of employment in the Post-offices of the United Kingdom on the Sabbath-day.

In Committee on Australian Colonies Government Bill,—

Mr. Walpole—To move an Amendment to the Second Clause, for the purpose of taking the opinion of the Committee as to the propriety of giving to the Colonies of New South Wales and Victoria two Houses of Legislature.

Mr. Divett—To strike out the Clauses constituting the General Assembly.

Mr. Lushington—To move the omission of such parts of Clauses XVI. and XVII. as provide for the signature of her Majesty's pleasure on every Bill which shall be passed by the Council in any of the Colonies referred to, altering the sums allotted for the sustentation of public worship, as mentioned in the third part of any of the Schedules (A), (B), and (C).

Mr. Mowatt—To move the omission of such part of Clause 3, as leaves to her Majesty the nomination of one-third part of the number of the Members of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Milnes—To amend the 90th Clause, as to enable her Majesty to establish a General Assembly of the United States of Australia, as soon as the Legislative Councils of the separate States are duly constituted.

DEBATES.

BENEFICES IN PLURALITY BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. Fawcett moved the second reading of this bill. It appeared from a recent return, that there were 589 cases in which clergymen had been appointed to two livings since the passing of the last act on this subject. This afforded a strong case for passing a bill in order further to check the practice. He saw no objection to clergymen holding two livings when they were adjoining each other, and the population of both was small; and there were many cases of this kind where no inconvenience was sustained, because the people of one parish could attend the services of the other. He would ask the House to affirm, by their assent to the second reading, the principle that the present law was not sufficiently stringent, and that it was desirable it should be made more effective. The bill which he (Mr. Fawcett) had introduced last session on this subject passed a second reading, but, on account of the lateness of the session, he was unable to carry it further. He had since received many letters from clergymen in different parts of the kingdom in favour of his bill, one in particular from the prebendary of one of our cathedrals, pointing out abuses which existed from prebendaries and their connexions getting possession of livings in their own families. He proposed that the bill should extend to Ireland, and he trusted the House would allow the bill, like that of last session, to pass a second reading. It would be prospective in its operation.

Sir G. GREY had no objection to make to the second reading. He believed that both the Primate of Ireland and the Archbishop of Canterbury were very desirous that some measure should be passed making an alteration in the law regarding benefices and pluralities. The bill might, therefore, be read a second time; but the House must not be asked to go into committee on the bill until he had had an opportunity of consulting with others, with the view of proposing certain alterations in the bill which would make it satisfactory.

Sir R. H. INGLIS said there was no difference of opinion as to the desirableness of having a resident clergyman in every parish in the kingdom. It was easy to say that no two livings ought to be held together by the same person the aggregate value of which should exceed a given sum, except they were contiguous; but he saw in a recent return a case where six livings were held by one clergyman, the united income of which did not amount to more than £300 per annum. If the right hon. baronet were not prepared to adopt the principle of the bill, why should he consent to go into committee?—and if he were favourable to the second reading, why should he require a long interval before going into committee?

Lord J. RUSSELL considered that there were very considerable practical difficulties in the way of dealing with pluralities, especially in cases where no house was provided for the clergyman, and where the income was small. All that the House would do now by voting for the second reading was to affirm that further restrictions in the law permitting pluralities were requisite. His right hon. friend (Sir G. Grey) had intended to bring forward a similar bill to the present, and he should therefore like the committee on the bill to be postponed, until time had been given to the Government to consider the subject and confer (as we understood) with the Archbishop of Canterbury thereupon.

Mr. HORSMAN wished to see the principle of doing away with sinecures and pluralities carried out to the utmost extent in the Church. His objection to the bill was that it did not go far enough. He held it to be most important to give every parish a resident teacher, by which means a great stimulus was given to private benevolence. Where parishes were small, he would unite them into one for *quoad sacra* purposes, but not keeping them under one incumbent.

Mr. FAWCETT said a communication was made to the Archbishop of Armagh last session, and he was aware that it depended upon his grace whether pluralities should exist in Ireland. He was happy to say that for the last 22 years not a single faculty had been granted by the Primate for the holding of pluralities in that country [hear].

The bill was then read a second time.

INSOLVENT MEMBERS.

Mr. MORFATT, in moving the second reading of the Bankrupt and Insolvent Members Bill, explained that it is the same which he introduced and withdrew last session. Mr. Wynn, who now rarely enters the House, had come down on that occasion and stated that the object of the bill could be obtained by a resolution of the House, without an act of Parliament; thereupon Mr. MORFATT withdrew the bill; but scarcely had the session passed when Mr. Wynn wrote to him saying that he had been mistaken, and that an act of Parliament is necessary.

Mr. GOULBURN renewed his former opposition, upon the same grounds; and moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He was supported by Mr. HUME, who had somewhat changed his opinion on reflection: he would abolish the power to plead Parliamentary privilege against debt, but thought that, with existing social arrangements, this bill might inflict cruel hardship. Mr. PACE observed, that agricultural members, in the present state of matters, would require to have some protection against the stringent working of the bankruptcy-laws. Sir GEORGE GREY, Mr. NAPIER, and Mr. MULLINGS, supported the bill.

On division, the second reading was negatived, by 73 to 24.

SUMMARY TRIAL OF PETTY LARCENERS: TRIAL BY JURY.

In moving the second reading of the Larceny Summary Jurisdiction Bill, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON explained, that it proposes to extend the provisions of the Juvenile Offenders Act, now applying to criminals fourteen years old and under, to criminals sixteen years old and under; and also to extend the power of summary jurisdiction to all cases of petty larceny under the old law,—that is, where the value of the article stolen is not more than one shilling.

Mr. M'CULLACH and Mr. NAPIER urged doubts; the former thinking the experiment of the Juvenile Offenders Act had not been attended with the good results expected, the latter thinking the law already too severe on the poorer class of criminals. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL entirely concurred with the principle of the bill, and approved of its object. Mr. MONCKTON MILNES thought it hardly summary enough; he was strongly in favour of administering punishment for a boy's offence at the nearest police-station. Mr. PACE, Mr. ROBERT PALMER, and Mr. W. MILLS, all experienced Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, hailed the measure as good for England. Mr. HENLEY approved, with doubts.

The bill was read a second time.

SMALL TENEMENT RATING: FRANCHISE.

The second reading of the Small Tenements Rating Bill, moved by Mr. HALSEY, was opposed by Mr. POULETT SCROPE, from a fear that it will check the supply of the existing deficiency in cottage accommodation for the poor. Under the existing acts,

vestries are empowered to transfer from the occupier to the owner the rates on property not rented higher than £20, or lower than £6 a year; the bill proposes to remove the minimum. Now, the only effect of rating the owner will be that he will add the charge to the rent. Mr. Scrope moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. BAINES honestly believed that the bill would have no such effect, and gave it his support. Several Members supported the principle of the bill, but thought the clauses should be somewhat altered in Committee.

On a division, the second reading was carried, by 182 to 2.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of DESART submitted a series of resolutions relating to the Irish Poor-law, having for their object to enforce a return to the principle of the law of 1838, by a strict application of the workhouse test; or, in other words, to prohibit absolutely out-door relief.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE opposed the motion. He insisted that the condition of Ireland is improving, and that the improvement is due to the advances for improving landed property and the Encumbered Estates Act. Out-door relief he justified, not on abstract principle, but on the necessity of preserving life; and the number of paupers is under a process of gradual reduction. The number of persons relieved in the week ending on the first Saturday in February had fallen from 546,407 in 1849 to 124,821 in 1850; the week's cost of relief had fallen from £14,081 to £2,673. In eighteen unions of Connaught the monthly expenditure has been reduced from £33,000 to £17,000; the number of persons receiving out-door relief, from 98,000 to 11,000; in the workhouses, from 37,000 to 34,000. He always objected to resolutions binding the future action of Parliament, even when he agreed with their principle. He moved that the House proceed to the order of the day.

Lord MONTEAGLE complained that information and public documents upon the subject had not been furnished—had been apparently kept back—which would have shown that the diminution of expense, and the reduction in the number of paupers receiving relief, did not sustain the inference which the noble marquis had drawn: it was not that the country was more prosperous, but, simply, that the unions were exhausted of their funds. The root of all the evil lay in the granting of out-door relief.

The resolutions were supported by Lord ABINGER, the Earl of GLENALL, the Earl of CLARE, Lord STANLEY (though he advised Lord Desart to be content with having elicited the general condemnation of out-door relief), the Earl of LUCAN, and Lord BEAUMONT; opposed by the Earl of WICKLOW, the Earl of DAVON (who said that pauperism is decidedly diminishing in the Newcastle union), the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, and Earl GREY.

Taking Lord Stanley's advice, Lord DESART withdrew his resolutions.

THE POOR-LAWS AND THE LANDED INTEREST.

The debate on Thursday, on Mr. Disraeli's motion, adjourned from Tuesday, was opened by Mr. STAFFORD, in a good Protectionist speech. He calculated that Ireland would be relieved by the transfer of £490,000 to the Consolidated Fund.

Sir James Graham and Sir Robert Peel rose together: the former would have given way, but he proceeded in deference to a general invitation.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM insisted that the real question was, not the minor motion before the House, but the expediency of commencing an entire review of the whole fiscal burdens of the country. Mr. Disraeli had said that this was only the first of a series of measures involving local taxation to the amount of £12,000,000; allusions had also been made to the land-tax and the malt-tax; so that the gross amount under discussion would be £18,000,000 or £20,000,000. Nay, more, it involves a change of administration; for the Duke of Richmond avowed as much in the House of Lords. The manner of making the motion was also peculiar. If the House went into Committee, it could not adopt an operative or effective measure for transferring local burdens to the Consolidated Fund without the consent of the Crown; the committee could only adopt a resolution of opinion, which might just as well be moved in full House as in committee; but in committee it is allowable to move amendments and modifications: so that Mr. Disraeli's skilfully because slightly sketched motion was calculated to entrap many to support him who did not quite agree with him. It had produced that effect, for Mr. Charteris had been caught by this device. Though the proposed plan would dangerously violate principles, the relief would be insignificant—as regards all tenants, except those under leases, totally inoperative; for it would be absorbed in additional rent. It would remove from local expenditure the check of local management; that check under which the poor expenditure fell by 15 per cent. in England alone in 1849, and the casual poor relief in Scotland by 11 per cent. in 1847-8. In Scotland there already exists a system of rating means and substance in populous and large districts: what will the ratepayers say when called upon to contribute over again in diminution of the English poor-rates? But the motion also involved a reversal of recent policy in regard to taxation, by re-augmenting indirect taxes, against the experience of the Exchequer, which shows that we have proceeded as far as is practicable in that direction. You cannot pursue the exclusive interests of one class at the expense of the entire community; any class that has not the community at its back must be powerless: this has been proved by the results of that improvident bargain which the landed interest accepted when it took a Parliamentary guarantee for an eighty-shilling

corn price as compensation for restoring a depreciated standard of value. The landed interests are now about to pursue their class interests, asking for the re-imposition of the corn-laws: rather let them seek relief for the working classes from the weight of taxation on their small luxuries and humble fare. The taxes on timber, bricks, butter, cheese, soap, tea, coffee, sugar, molasses, currants, raisins, tobacco, spirits, beer, and malt, amount to £31,000,000—more than the interest of the National Debt: is there justice or equity, then, in transferring existing burdens from realized property to the shoulders of the humbler classes, commercial, manufacturing, and rural, on whom that larger burden mainly rests?—especially since the landed interest has been relieved in the natural progress of the country? The charge of the poor-rate in 1813 was 12s. 8d. per head; it is now 6s. 6d.; and if the larger sum was paid in a depreciated currency, it is the fact that the value of real property brought to charge in a depreciated currency was £51,000,000, in 1844 it was £85,000,000, in 1848 it was £91,000,000. Nor is that all: the proportion of taxes borne by land, as contradistinguished from other realized property—canals, docks, factories, railroad, &c.—in England, stood as follows:—In 1826, land paid 69 per cent., other realized property 31; in 1841, land 52, other property 48; in 1849, land 46, other property 55. Moreover, in any parish you will find that the land is not rated up to its real value, while other property is rated up to its last shilling. In 3,000 parishes traversed by railroads, of £800,000 paid to the poor, £250,000 is contributed by railroads. Again, the repeal of the navigation-laws involves an alteration of the timber-duties; the income-tax expires in 1851; and it would be most impolitic now to rush in and sweep away the revenue while such financial questions are waiting discussion. The prosperity of the country is advancing—proved by such statements as one that he read from Glasgow; and it is impossible that the landed interest can long fail to participate in that general prosperity.

Mr. Scott and Mr. Gladstone rose together; but the Protectionist party called for Mr. GLADSTONE. He stated his reasons for voting with Mr. Disraeli. He could not concur with his friend Sir James Graham in voting mainly with a reference to propositions not before the House. He limited his view to the motion; but certainly he should not support it if he thought that it involved a reversal of the free-trade policy. He agreed that local management is a stimulus to economy; but he would go into committee to consider the charges—such as establishment charges and the like—which do not need that check, and might therefore be transferred to the Consolidated Fund. As a matter of justice, it is clear that property should be made liable for the maintenance of the poor. He supported the motion mainly because he thought it would have a tendency to lessen the agitation for the restoration of protection, by drawing off the moderate; and the struggling class which now makes its claim upon the House should be met with aid and encouragement.

Mr. JAMES WILSON opposed the motion with a long statistical speech, chiefly directed to show that the country has not suffered by repeal of the corn-laws; that the extremely low prices are transitory; and that there is a danger of a recurrence to high prices, since the stocks at Dantzic, Odessa, &c., are very low.

Mr. BUCK feared that before Christmas the price would be 4s. a bushel; and he claimed perfect free trade—that is, removal of all duties.

Mr. GRANTLEY BEKESLEY supported the motion, and attacked the Manchester school.

Sir ROBERT PEEL spoke at considerable length, commencing with a compliment to Mr. Disraeli for the ability, temper, and moderation with which he had introduced the subject. Expressing a sincere sympathy for the distress of the agricultural classes, Sir Robert was interrupted by "a curious noise, apparently expressive of a certain hon. member's doubt of this sincerity;" and, amid the cheers of the House, he said he should take no notice of those "inarticulate sounds," which were, no doubt, as good arguments as any other the member who made them was able to utter. Admitting the distress, he imputed it to causes which had produced still greater distress while protection was in force, and which now produce equal or greater distress in other countries—such as France and Belgium—still under the influence of protection. It is aggravated by the propagation of undue alarm: professors of agriculture in Scotland are seen telling the farmers that Indian corn can be introduced into this country at 12s. the quarter; whereas the price at Liverpool, Limerick, Cork, or Dublin, is fluctuating probably between 27s. and 31s. But the increasing consumption of the people must be witnessed with the greatest satisfaction: in 1849 there was a great increase in consumption of British wheat, and concurrently with that the enormous consumption of 5,600,000 quarters of foreign wheat—consumed and paid for by the produce of the people's industry. That increase is not in the consumption of the upper classes; in times of prosperity the middle classes may increase their consumption of luxuries, but not of prime necessities; it is in the consumption of the working classes: that enormous increase in the consumption of wheat of prime quality, therefore, strikingly indicates the general ease and increasing comfort of the people. There must be a similar increase of demands for other agricultural produce. Taking into consideration these circumstances, with the capital and skill of our agriculturists, it is plain that they need not fear competition with the agriculturists of any other country. Mr. Gladstone chose to consider the motion without any ulterior questions; Sir Robert differed from him. It might be all very well to invite a young

member to go into committee on the mere terms of the motion; but the mover himself practised no such deception: he had avowed a series of measures involving £14,000,000 of taxation, of which this was only a small and partial instalment, that would not close the account. Out of the House, Mr. Disraeli had suggested one great source of relief for the agricultural interest, in raising the Public Funds, lowering the rate of interest, and thus affording facilities of relief from charges to which landed proprietors are now subject. There is great force in that part of his suggestions; and if you were to effect it by legitimate means, you would achieve a great object. But any blow at the public creditor must impede that operation; any plan which anticipates a surplus must preclude such an operation. On the other hand, look at the working of such duties as those on bricks; which oblige the bricks to be of a certain size and form, and prevent landlords from improving farm-buildings and dwellings for labourers—the remission of a duty like that, though that produces only £600,000 to the revenue, would afford mere relief to the landed interest than Mr. Disraeli's present motion. This appears still plainer from another calculation. In 1849, the land paid only 45 per cent. of the charges on real property, only £900,000 out of the £2,000,000; by the transfer of the gross sum, therefore, to the Consolidated Fund, the landed interest would purchase remission of £900,000 for itself by relieving another description of property to the amount of £1,100,000—houses, mills, factories, &c.—the owners of which, it is admitted, have benefited by the recent changes in legislation. But the agriculturist will have to make up for the loss caused by the transfer of that £1,100,000. Virtually, the course proposed would be a reversal of the recent financial policy: in 1842, it was thought that the industrial classes merited relief; and now it is proposed to transfer taxes from the land to those classes. The policy of remitting taxation in 1842 has completely answered; there has been more contentment and more submission under privation, more unaffected loyalty, and more refusal to listen to sedition or join in agitation, than could have been expected in another state of things. Sir Robert wound up with a vindication of his policy, especially against attacks out of doors by Lord Henry Bentinck, who had imputed to him interested motives.

Sir, it was my sincere belief—I thought it my duty, a duty I owed to God and to my country—if there was a chance of famine, to take the precaution which alone could be taken, and to suspend the duties [cheers]. I did conscientiously believe, that, after that suspension, it would be most unwise to give a pledge for the revival and renewal of those duties as they then stood. I may have been mistaken, Sir, but all subsequent events have confirmed my impression, that we were not in error, and that the course we have taken has been a wise one [cheers]. But if it had been mistaken, would I have had any personal or political object to gain in forfeiting your good opinion, in relinquishing office, in exposing myself to the abuse and vituperation of those who had been my friends, and—infinitely more galling and more painful—in losing your confidence? [loud cheers.] But I must submit to it; and, submitting, I declare that the interval which has passed has only confirmed my confidence in the prudence of the course that was adopted in pursuance of the policy of those commercial principles which were acted on subsequently to 1842, and to which the present Government has, infinitely to my satisfaction, steadily and consistently adhered [cheering]. Sir, I agree with the hon. gentleman—I am no enemy to the landed interest; all my prejudices, sympathies, and interests, are connected with it—I agree with him, that the land is the stable basis of the country [loud Protectionist cheering]. I should deplore the day when the land lost its legitimate influence; but my belief is, that day will never come [cheers]—my belief is, that the land will always retain its legitimate influence. Why, you are now exclaiming that if there were a dissolution of Parliament, and new elections took place, so predominant is the influence of the land that you would return a Parliament which should revive protection [loud cheers]. I totally differ from you with respect to that result. It is my firm belief protection never will and never can revive [loud cheers and counter cheers]; but you convince me you think the just influence of the land is not diminished when you prophesy that you can restore protection [renewed cheering].

He hoped that he should not live to see the House of Commons retrace its steps.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL re-enforced and continued the arguments of Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham; and, in a tone of respectful deference, gravely rebuked Sir Robert Peel for having thought it necessary to vindicate his personal motives:—

I say that it would be to reduce the noble science of political administration in this country—that it would be to reduce the men in this House, who take part in your deliberations, to the meanest level, if it could be supposed that he who then was the leader of the Government, and the leader of this House, could be induced, by any mean or unfair motives, to take the course which the right hon. gentleman then took [loud cheers]. I only trust that he will not think it necessary again to defend himself from these attacks [cheers]. If he does defend the course which he then took, let it be on the ground that it was calculated to be for the benefit of his country; but, with regard to his personal motives, I hold that he is quite above suspicion [loud and general cheering].

Lord HENRY BENTINCK complained of a habit in Sir Robert Peel of attacking non-combatant and unequal antagonists; and he invited Sir Robert to deny that he had one-fourth of his property in land and three-fourths in funds or mortgages. The late Sir Robert Peel said of the Currency Bill of 1819 that it had ruined the country and raised the fortunes of his family. [Lord Henry was shouted down.]

Sir ROBERT PEEL said that if Lord Henry Bentinck would reverse the proportion of property in

land and funds, it would be nearer the truth; as to mortgages, he had not a shilling upon mortgages.

Mr. DISRAELI replied with criticisms on points of the previous speakers, and answers upon particulars. We select one or two extracts as a sample of his speech, which appears to have excited a considerable display of party feeling:—

The right hon. gentleman (Sir R. Peel) stated, on the whole the agricultural interest was not fairly dealt with in 1846, and seemed willing to admit that he did not then diminish their burdens to the full extent that they ought to have been. The noble lord, too (Lord J. Russell), wrote a letter, in which he held out great hopes to the agricultural body; but when he was asked what he would give them, he got under the gabardine of the right hon. gentleman, and said he meant what the right hon. gentleman meant [great laughter]. But everything came out at last in that temple of free discussion; and they had found out what the right hon. gentleman and the noble lord meant in order to compensate the agricultural interest. The right hon. gentleman clearly meant to take off the duty on bricks [laughter]. The right hon. gentleman the member for Ripon was in the secret, and he was also for taking the duty off bricks [a laugh]. But the noble lord was against bricks [laughter], and he was for taking the duty off stamps [laughter]. If these were the only measures they had to propose, why did they not do so when they had the opportunity, so that the country might know that agricultural distress was to be remedied by a repeal of the duty on bricks or stamps? [laughter.] They were now told that the surplus of which they had heard so much was an imaginary surplus; but he must be allowed to remind the House that it was not treated as an imaginary surplus on the first night of the session [hear, hear]. They brought down the hon. member for Wolverhampton (Mr. Villiers), in unaccustomed and magnificent array [laughter], to speak of the unusual degree of prosperity with which the country was blessed, and they were told in that illuminated edition of the speech from the throne that there was a surplus of £2,000,000 [great laughter].

He denied that the right hon. gentleman could settle this question [Protection] by a vote of the House of Commons [loud cheers from the Protectionists]. If it could be settled by a vote of the House of Commons, it would have been settled long ago. It would be settled by the people out of doors [cheers]. He gave no opinion how it would be settled, and, indeed, he deprecated the introduction of that topic into a debate with which it had nothing to do. The right hon. gentleman had argued the case sedulously, as if it had been a case between the aristocracy and the community. But there he joined issue with the right hon. gentleman and his friends. He believed the right hon. gentleman made a great mistake; and he thought it to be an error which, if persisted in for any continuance of time by a person so eminent as the right hon. gentleman, would lead to great confusion in this country [cheers from the Protectionists]. Let him remind the House that the aristocratical element was not the element that was agitating the country upon this question [cheers from the same quarter]. He read that day in a literary publication of great ability, which he believed was the organ of the right hon. gentleman, that the hereditary aristocracy of the country did not sanction this disturbance. If that was the case, the more serious did the matter become [cheers].

If one-half of the aristocratic element was severed from the other great body of proprietors, what else had they against them? The most considerable portion of the middle classes of the country. These were the people. They were not the squires or the lords of the manor that were agitating the country, but they were men of limited means, of thrifty habits; and those men were not to be met by your old-fashioned distinctions between relieving the owner at the cost of the occupier. They said—"You have thrown the soil of England into open competition with all the soils of the world, and you are, by every principle of justice, and by every principle of your new system, bound to free that soil from every impost that is possible as a matter of policy, and from every peculiar burden as a matter of justice" [loud cheers from the Protectionists]. Promising Ireland £500,000 out of the £2,000,000 to be saved, he claimed the support of the Irish members:—

Half a million of the assumed sum of two millions which would be saved by this proposition would go at once to Ireland [ironical cheers from the Ministerial benches, and loud cheering from the Protectionists]. All he now asked the House to do was to go into committee. He trusted there were some gentlemen who would support him not only by going into committee, but would support the plan he proposed in its entirety [hear]. He looked with confidence to the members for Ireland in this respect [loud laughter, and cheering from the opposite side of the House]. If those hon. members rightly understood the opportunity given to them by this motion they would avail themselves of it with alacrity [renewed cheers and laughter]. Were they not complaining every night of the Government of this country? Did they not feel themselves insulted the other night when an hon. member ventured to hint that a loan would turn out ultimately to be a gift? [hear, hear.] He asked them, therefore, to consider well what was the offer which he now made them by the proposition he had submitted to the House [loud laughter, followed by cheers from the Protectionists]. That laugh showed the Irish members how they were treated in that House [renewed laughter, and cheers].

The House divided—For Mr. Disraeli's motion, 252; against it, 273; majority against the motion, 21. The announcement of numbers was loudly cheered by the Protectionists.

AGITATION BY PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, the Marquis of LONDONDERRY called the attention of the House to a very improper letter which he had received from Mr. Dobbin, a Presbyterian minister, in Ireland, calling upon him to retract or substantiate his accusation of the ministers for preaching against paying rents. He wanted to know from his noble friend opposite whether there was no method by which the Govern-

ment could punish these deluders. He believed that the *Regium Donum* was granted to these ministers on the application of certain clergymen of their persuasion in the province of Ulster; and some of these deluders had scarcely any other income than that which they derived from that source. Could not her Majesty's Government intimate to these men that it was in its power to deprive them of these emoluments, in case they continued to drive the tenants to resist the law of the land, and to refuse the payment of their rents?

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE regretted that his noble friend the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland was not then in the House, as that nobleman could have given his noble friend opposite a more satisfactory answer than he could pretend to give. He considered the language of this Mr. Dobbin to be exceedingly improper; but it did not follow, that, because it was so, it was therefore politically expedient that the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland should direct the law officers of the Crown to institute a State prosecution against him. The distribution of the *Regium Donum* was made under the authority of the Presbyterian Church; and it would be very difficult and inexpedient for Government to interfere with it.

THE IRISH FRANCHISE BILL.

On the motion that the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Bill be read a second time,

Mr. NAPIER raised some objections to it, saying that "in place of having £50 and £20 freeholders, they would have £5 freeholders, they would sub-let and divide the land, and raise up a horde of persons who would be exceedingly useful to designing men in carrying out their purposes."

Mr. HUMS objected to the bill upon a different ground; although ostensibly enlarging the franchise in Ireland, it placed it upon a narrower basis than that of the Cape of Good Hope, and Irishmen should be treated as liberally as Hottentots.

Mr. RAYMONDS likewise condemned the measure as niggardly; the bill had greatly disappointed him, and would disappoint the people of Ireland.

Sir J. WALSH opposed it on the ground that if the constituencies had dwindled (which was the pretext for the measure), so had property, and it was a dangerous remedy so to extend the suffrage as to strengthen the democratic element.

Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL was prepared to accept gratefully that part of the bill which related to the county franchise; but he thought it would grievously diminish the leasehold suffrage.

Mr. F. O'CONNOR was thankful for the measure, small as the instalment was, and though a measure of policy rather than of principle on the part of the Government. He then attacked the Irish landlords.

Lord C. HAMILTON thought that although Irish landlords might have some faults, he would appeal to the House whether their treatment of their tenants was not somewhat better than the mode in which the hon. member had treated the unhappy inhabitants of Snigg's End [a laugh and cheers].

Mr. O'CONNOR: My tenants pay no rent at Snigg's End [a laugh].

Mr. BRIGHT agreed with the observations which had been made as to the faults of the bill with regard to county franchise and the borough franchise, and he considered that no kind of sensible reason could be given why the franchise should be the same for boroughs as for counties. He thought the noble lord ought, before going into committee, consent to a modified alteration of the bill. The six months' residence was as long a period as ought to be asked, because it gave a sufficient guarantee against a fraudulent occupancy [hear]. The noble lord at the head of her Majesty's Government might rest assured that before long, he would have to bring in a bill for Parliamentary Reform for the United Kingdom [hear]. He was not going to say, that there existed at present any very pressing or extraordinary demand in the country for such a measure. But the man was not worth arguing with who believed that the representation in this country could be long maintained, without considerable changes [hear].

Mr. GROGAN, Mr. W. FAGAN, Sir J. TYRRELL, Mr. SADLER, and other Irish members, having addressed the House, Sir W. SOMERVILLE replied, saying that he proposed to commit the bill on Monday.

On Monday, on the order of the day for going into committee upon the Parliamentary Voters, &c. (Ireland), Bill,

Mr. DISRAELI urged its postponement until the termination of the Irish Assizes, during which every gentleman connected with Ireland ought not to be in that House.

This proposition was resisted by Sir W. SOMERVILLE and Sir G. GREY, on the part of the Government; and, after a smart discussion, in the course of which Lord J. MANNERS moved as an amendment that the bill be committed that day three weeks, the House divided, when the amendment was negatived by 185 to 115.

Mr. DISRAELI again pressed his proposition, and, appealing to the considerable minority in support of it as justifying this course, opposed the Speaker's leaving the chair.

Lord J. RUSSELL could hardly believe that Mr. Disraeli and his party were serious in offering this opposition to a bill which had been before the House for two sessions, and the main provisions of which must have been considered in Ireland. Mr. Disraeli, he observed, had been told elsewhere that it was his duty to obstruct, and having been taught this lesson he supposed it was his intention to obstruct this bill, which was to enlarge the suffrage of the people of Ireland.

Lord CASTLEREAGH and Mr. GOULBURN, who had

voted with the minority, declined offering any further opposition to the committal of the bill.

The House divided, when the Speaker was voted out of the chair by 193 against 93; and the House accordingly went into committee.

Mr. DISRAELI characterised the observation of Lord John Russell, that he was obstructing public business, and that he had received his instructions elsewhere, as not either very constitutional or very courteous; the noble lord, however, could not say of him and his friends that they received inspirations for the conduct of affairs in that House by consulting seditious clubs. Lord John, he added, was the last person from whom he should have expected such a charge, when he remembered his proceeding in respect to the well known appropriation clause, when he upset the existing Government by means of a fastious motion, which he had neither the conscience nor the courage to follow up. He should not be deterred from the course he thought it his duty to pursue. The measure was one of immense importance, and ought not to be shuffled through the House. His proposition had been met in a spirit of party insolence, and he should avail himself of every power which the forms of the House would give him to oppose the present progress of the bill. He moved that the Chairman report progress.

This motion, upon a division, was negatived by 191 against 81.

The motion that the Chairman leave the chair was renewed by Mr. FOXHAM, and after another sharp discussion another division took place, which negatived the motion by 146 against 70.

The same motion was then repeated by Mr. GROGAN.

Mr. NAPIER suggested a middle course; some parts of the bill might be taken now, and other parts, which Irish county members desired further time to consider, might be postponed.

Lord J. RUSSELL admitted that this appeared a very fair proposition; but if he meant that the registration clauses were to be taken now, and those which regarded the franchise, wherein the principle of the measure was involved, were to be deferred, he could not accede to it.

After a long discussion of a very miscellaneous character the committee again divided, when the motion was negatived by 155 against 68.

A similar motion was again made by Mr. ADDERLEY, in the course of discussing which

Mr. DISRAELI said, the question really was, had the Government acted ingenuously by the House in the conduct of this business, relating to a measure of great importance? He denied that they had managed it candidly, and it behoved their leader that his conduct should be beyond impeachment. This bill was for the reconstruction and enlargement of the franchise in Ireland, and there should be no mistake in such a matter.

Lord J. RUSSELL defended the course taken by the Government, and recommended the opponents of the bill, which he believed the House would pass, instead of shrinking from the question, to decide it at once.

Upon a division the motion was negatived by 184 against 70.

A seventh and eighth division took place upon the same motion, with similar results; when

Lord J. RUSSELL said, he should no longer persevere, and upon his motion the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Friday.

THE WOODS AND FORESTS.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL introduced a Bill for the Better Management of the Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues of the Crown, and for the Direction of Public Works and Buildings. He would not then, especially in the absence of Lord Duncan, Chairman of the Select Committee on the subject, enter into the details of the measure, but only explain its general provisions. The offices for managing the Woods and Forests, and for the Management of Works under the Surveyor-General, united in 1832, are to be again divided. The Woods and Forests and Land Revenues of the Crown will be managed by three Commissioners—one at £1,400, one at £1,000, and the third without salary—some person already in the public service. These Commissioners will only have to consider the best management of the estates and rents under their charge. The Office of Works will be managed by a First Commissioner with a seat in Parliament, and a salary of £2,000; the other Commissioners not to receive salary. The gross amount of salaries will be the same as those at present paid in the Office of Woods and Forests. The arrangement will keep the expenditure on public works within the control of Parliament.

The bill was read a first time.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION BILL.

In the House of Lords on Monday night, on the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, the house went into committee upon this bill. Several verbal amendments were proposed in the first 11 clauses by the Bishop of LONDON, and assented to by the Marquis of LANSDOWNE. On coming to the 12th clause, consolidating the Episcopal and the Common fund,

Earl POWIS opposed the 12th clause, consolidating the Episcopal and Common Fund, on the ground that it would render nugatory the promise solemnly given that the surplus income of the Episcopal Fund should be expended in augmenting the number of bishoprics. The noble lord then proposed an amendment:—

And it is expedient that power be given to the said commissioners to transfer and apply any surplus of, or arising from, the said Episcopal Fund to the said Common Fund, for the purposes of such Common Fund. Be it enacted, that from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful for the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, when and as they shall think

fit, from time to time to transfer all or any part of any surplus moneys arising from, or being part of, the said Episcopal Fund to the said Common Fund, and all moneys so transferred, as aforesaid, shall then form part of the said Common Fund mentioned in the said secondly-recited act, and be applicable to the purposes of such Common Fund.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE should be extremely sorry to have it understood, that his object in moving this bill was to prejudice the very important question as to the increase of the number of bishops. The noble earl had very truly stated, that the appointment of three new bishops had been promised by her Majesty's Ministers; and though he (the Marquis of Lansdowne) could not say that it was the intention of Ministers to introduce a bill at present with that object, he was far from saying that that object would not be carried out when the expediency of the public, and the interest of the Church, required it. One of the strongest objections to the increase of the number of bishops at present, had arisen from the desire of some parties to draw an impassable line between the episcopal and the common fund. Now it appeared to him, that the simplest mode of satisfying all doubts, and of meeting the wishes of the community and the Church on that point, was to amalgamate the two funds in the hands of the commissioners, and to apply the united fund in the manner which should be found most conducive to the interests of the Church. It would thus be applicable, either to the augmentation of small livings, or to the providing of incomes for new bishops. If the appointment of new bishops, rather than the other object which he had mentioned, should meet with the approbation of the clergy, what difficulty would there be in applying the fund to that object which was deemed most conducive to the interests of the Church? The question, whether there should be bishops, was a question of principle, but was not involved in this discussion. But the question as to the number of bishops at any particular time was not a question of principle, but a question of degree; a question of expediency, which he should wish to have left open to the deliberation of Parliament. The amendment of the noble earl, if carried, would prevent any addition from being made from the common fund to the episcopal fund; and he (the Marquis of Lansdowne) would therefore prefer having the clause left as it stood at present.

The Bishop of LONDON remarked that the noble marquis had admitted that bishops were essential to a Christian church, but had observed that the question as to the number of bishops was a question more of detail than of principle. But, if that observation were carried out to its full length, it would follow that, so long as there were two bishops, nay, so long as there was one bishop, that one bishop was enough. He (the Bishop of London) hoped to see many new bishoprics established. After twenty-six years' experience of office, he felt convinced that no man placed at the head of one of our larger dioceses could discharge his duties to his own satisfaction. He had reason to think that if the clergy could be polled there would be a very large majority of them in favour of maintaining the independence of the two funds—in favour of maintaining a separate fund, the surplus of which might be applied to the erection of new bishoprics. He hoped he was not speaking presumptuously in saying, that if her Majesty's Government had to deal only with this House of Parliament, he thought they would have no hesitation in proposing to complete the addition of the four new bishoprics [hear, hear].

Lord STANLEY observed, that hitherto the funds applied to episcopal uses had been episcopal funds; but if this bill, in its present state, should pass, the parochial clergy would have a plausible ground for complaining that, in establishing a new bishopric, funds were taken which might have been applied for the support of forty clergymen. If Parliament determined to fuse the two funds, and not adopt even the modification now proposed, he was at a loss to understand how there could remain a practical possibility of that addition to the episcopal bench which he held to be urgently required, and which he believed would at no distant period be demanded to a much greater extent than the creation of the three or four bishops referred to [hear].

The LORD CHANCELLOR considered the advisable course to be that proposed by the bill as it now stood, namely, not to attempt to anticipate future circumstances and tie the hands of the commissioners in regard to what the interests of the Church might hereafter require, but, if it was believed that they would do what was best, leave it to their discretion to apply the funds as the welfare of the Church might from time to time demand.

The Earl of HARROWBY urged that the fusion of the two funds was what would in reality fetter the discretion of the commissioners.

Earl GREY thought otherwise, and believed the discretion would virtually be intrusted to the Commissioners, and might be safely committed to them. He entertained a sanguine hope that under the management of church property proposed by this bill, larger means might be obtained for the appointment both of additional clergymen and bishops. He quite agreed that an increase of population made an increase in the number of bishoprics desirable, but in many districts an increase in the number of clergymen was still more desirable.

The committee then divided:—

For the amendment 31

Against it 26

Majority for the amendment 5

On clause 15, which enacts that the Deanery of York, from and after the next vacancy, shall be endowed with an average yearly income not exceeding £2,000, and assigns to each of the present Deans of Salisbury and Wells, so long as they hold such deaneries, an average yearly income not exceeding £1,500, and provides that no future Deans of

Chichester, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield, Salisbury, or Wells, shall have yearly incomes exceeding £1,000.

The Bishop of SALISBURY rose to propose an amendment, the object of which was to provide that the income should not, in the case of the Deanery of York, exceed £2,000, nor in the case of any of the Deaneries of Chichester, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield, Salisbury, or Wells, exceed £1,500, nor should in any case exceed the average annual income of the lands, tithes and hereditaments heretofore annexed to the deanery, and which, by the provisions of the act 6 and 7 William IV., have or may become vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The effect of the amendment he now proposed would be to carry out the recommendation of the commissioners; and he would urge its adoption on the ground that it had an important bearing on the usefulness and efficiency of our cathedral establishments. If those establishments were to be not only the ornaments but the strength and support of the Church, they must not view them as institutions of which they were ashamed, and from which every shilling of supposed surplus revenue was to be abstracted; they must not reduce them to a state of uselessness and degradation by cutting down their offices and diminishing their services, but by endowing them with adequate and suitable funds, and requiring from them in return real and effective services, they must place them in a position of efficiency, which would enable them to conduce far more than they did at present to the strength of the church, and the spiritual edification of the people [hear, hear]. He was satisfied that one of the first steps towards the attainment of that object would be to require from members of these cathedral establishments a more constant residence in their cathedral preferments. He would suggest, with that view, that the future holders of cathedral preferments should not be permitted to hold parochial benefices, with cure of souls, in parishes remote from the cathedral towns. At present deans and other members of the chapters could hold parochial benefices along with their cathedral preferments, at whatever distance; and he would gladly see deans and canons placed in this respect under the same restrictions with the inferior clergy.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE opposed the amendment, observing that the object of the clause was to do reasonable justice to the present holders of particular deaneries.

The committee then divided, when there were—
Content 19
Not content 21

Majority for the amendment ... 2

On our re-admission to the gallery, we found

The Bishop of OXFORD proposing the addition of certain clauses, enabling the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to commute for any prebend annexed to a dignity or office. The right rev. prelate, in proposing another clause, observed that when Parliament placed the incomes of the bishops on their present footing, it was determined that all benefices then held in *commendam* by the different bishops should be severed from those bishops. There were, however, three livings held by the Bishops of Gloucester and Bristol, of Oxford, and of Peterborough, which were not held in *commendam*, but under the authority of an act of Parliament, and to which the regulation adopted by Parliament did not apply; and the object of his clause was to enable the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to take steps for severing those livings from the three bishops he had mentioned.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said, he had no objection to the clauses, which were added to the bill.

The House then resumed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CAVELTIES AND IMMORALITIES IN EMIGRANT SHIPS.—In reply to a question by Mr. DIXON, prefaced by a statement of the alarm caused among intending emigrants by the account of what has happened on board the bark "Indian," Mr. HAWES stated that he has already called the attention of the Emigration Commissioners to the subject; and they will be instructed to enforce the severest penalties which the law enables them to inflict, if the facts should be proved.

ROYAL COMMISSION TO CEYLON.—On the unopposed motion of Mr. BAILLIE, the House of Commons has agreed that a humble address be presented to her Majesty praying her to appoint a commission "to inquire into the circumstances relating to the documents presented to the Ceylon Committee on the 14th instant, with the name of Captain Watson attached to them, and to which his evidence, laid upon the table of the House, refers."

THE ESTIMATES.—Lord J. RUSSELL stated on Friday that the first vote of supply for the military and naval services would be taken on Monday next. Mr. HUMS declared his intention of bringing the question of the financial state of the country before the House previous to any money being granted for the war expenditure.

THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES' CONSTITUTION BILL.—The committee of this bill, which stood for Monday, has been postponed by Lord J. RUSSELL to the 8th of March. Lord John stated, that full and new information on the subject of the double or single Legislature should in the mean time be laid before the House; and Mr. Walpole was also invited to lay his proposed amendment, respecting "two houses of legislature," before the House in a printed form.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.—On the motion of Sir G. GREY, the following were, on Friday, nominated the select committee on prison discipline:—Sir George

Grey, Mr. Edmund Denison, Mr. Pearson, Sir Henry Hallford, Mr. Sotherton, Mr. Alderman Sidney, Mr. Bankes, Capt. Pelham, Mr. Peto, Viscount Mahon, Sir Edward Buxton, Mr. Robert Palmer, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Armstrong, and Mr. Milnes.

DIVISION ON MR. D'ISRAELI'S MOTION.—The following is an analysis of the division in the House of Commons on Thursday night:—

For Mr. Disraeli's motion (including tellers)	254
Against it.....	275
Ministerial and free-trade majority	21
Total members present	529
The Speaker, 1; Kirkcubright and Stigo vacant, 2	3
Absent	134

Seventeen members of the Peel party who voted with the Minority:—

Blandford, Marquis of Jocelyn, Viscount	Sanders, G.
Castlereagh, Viscount Mahon, Lord	Sanders, J.
Charteris, Hon. F. Monseil, W.	Thesiger, Sir F.
Corry, Rt. Hon. H. Mure, Colonel	Villiers, Viscount
Gladstone, W. G. Pennant, Colonel	Young, Sir J.
Hamilton, Lord C. Reid, Colonel	

Sixteen Liberals who voted with the Minority:—

Anson, Viscount	Grace, O. D.	O'Connor, F.
Barron, Sir H. W.	Grattan, H.	O'Flaherty, A.
Clifford, H. M.	Lennard, T. B.	Simeon, J.
Drax, J. B. W. S. E.	Meagher, T.	Sullivan, M.
Dunne, Colonel	Nugent, Lord	Townley, R. G.
Euston, Lord		

THE NEW FLORIN.—On Monday, in the House of Commons, Major BERRARD inquired whether the issue of the new florin coins had been countermanded; and, if so, why? Mr. SMITH replied, that the whole number of coins struck had been duly issued. Since the die was fabricated, however, the discovery was made by some microscopical observers, that certain letters were omitted from the inscription. As to the fact, there could be no question, but that a sovereign endowed with so many virtues as her present Majesty was the gracious gift of Heaven, and it was equally certain that the monarch was the head of the Protestant Church in this country. But the omission of the words *Dei Gratia* and *Fidei Defensor* was intended merely to prevent overcrowding the face of the coins. For his own part, he was responsible only for the manufacture of the money; he had no control over its issue, or the design for the dies.

THE BUDGET.—Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice, that the Government proposed asking for votes for a large portion of the naval supplies on Monday next, and of those for the army on the Monday following; and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it was hoped, would make his financial statement on the 15th of March.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Bishop of OXFORD moved for the re-appointment of the select committee to consider the best means of finally extinguishing the slave-trade.

THE BERMUDSEY MURDER.—It appears there is a determination on the part of the Government to dispose of the claims made by the attorneys for Manning and his wife, Mr. Binns and Mr. Solomons, for conducting their defence, to be paid out of the proceeds of the jewels and other property seized by the police, and now in the hands of Inspector Yates. On Saturday, Mr. Binns, the attorney for Manning, received from Mr. Maule a letter, requesting him to furnish him his bill of costs, for his consideration previous to a settlement, a similar letter being received by Mr. Solomons. The Lords of the Treasury have, we understand, awarded to Mr. Moxey, the superintendent of the Edinburgh police, the sum of £30, and to one of his officers £5, for their active part in accomplishing the capture of Mrs. Manning at the house in Haddington-place in that city. Mr. Moxey has very generously distributed his portion among three charitable institutions in Edinburgh.—*Globe*.

COUNTY COURTS.—A rumour has reached us that it is the intention of the Government to bring in a bill after Easter, for the extension of the jurisdiction of the county courts up to £50; to give them unlimited jurisdiction over bills of exchange, except where the defendant makes an affidavit of merits, that he has good grounds of defence to the action; and, lastly, to confer on them (what is greatly needed) an equity jurisdiction up to £300.

DEATH BY SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.—The following extraordinary circumstance is related in the *Gazette des Tribunaux*:—"A few days ago, in a tavern near the Barrière de l'Etoile, a journeyman painter, named Xavier C—, well known for his intemperate habits, while drinking with some comrades, laid a wager that he would eat a lighted candle. His bet was taken, and scarcely had he introduced the flaming candle into his mouth, when he uttered a slight cry, and fell powerless to the ground. A bluish flame was seen to flicker about his lips, and, on an attempt being made to offer him assistance, the bystanders were horrorstruck to find that he was burning internally. At the end of half an hour, his head and the upper part of his chest were reduced to charcoal. Two medical men were called in, and recognised that Xavier had fallen a victim to spontaneous combustion. The conflagration of the human frame is frightfully rapid in its progress—bones, skin, and muscle, all are devoured, consumed, and reduced to ashes. A handful of dust on the spot where the victim fell is all that remains."

FURTHER RAILWAY EXPOSURES.—It is said that at the next meeting of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, exposures will be made quite of an Hudsonian character, and that they will show mal-practices quite as bad, though not involving such large sums, as those which have rendered the ex-railway king so notorious.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1861.

MEETING AT WESTMINSTER.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster, in local furtherance of Prince Albert's Exposition, was held at Willis's-rooms on Thursday: the High Bailiff presided, and a very distinguished attendance of peers, foreign ambassadors, and others, assisted. The Earl of Carlisle was duly genial and classical; the Bishop of London dwelt upon the Christian aspect of the scheme; the Bishop of Oxford enlarged upon the nobility of labour and the dignity of work. The foreign ambassadors, all on behalf of their countries, took up in friendly and honest rivalry the gage which this country has thrown down to "all nations:" in very good English, M. Drouyn de Lhuys contrasted the fortunes of that Prince of Coburg who, half a century ago, headed a warlike coalition of princes, with the higher and happier fortune of the Prince of that house now heading a muster of the industrial forces of the world. The Chevalier Bunsen invoked God's blessing on us for our generous example, and foretold high political and humanitarian effects from the vast undertaking. Mr. Abbott Lawrence welcomed this great world's practical peace convention, as a means whereby the people of all nations shall see each other face to face. Lord Brougham broke through his rule of twenty years' evasion of public meetings, to come and recant fears dispelled by manufacturing friends that peradventure we should be beaten in some departments. Swerving into political allusions, he recovered himself on the monition of "cheers and hisses," and sat down with compliments to the superiority of foreign artistic invention and taste. Subscriptions amounting to nearly £2,000 were announced.

FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PLAN.—The Royal Commission for Promoting the Show of Industry from all Nations has notified its determination of several points. The Commissioners have fixed upon the 1st of May, 1861, for opening the show, in a fire-proof building covering a space about 16 or 20 acres in extent, or about 1,000,000 square feet, to be erected on a site granted by the Queen on the South side of Hyde Park, between the Kensington Drive and Rotten Row. They will be prepared to receive at some place in London to be named, and to keep, at their own expense, all goods delivered between January the 1st, and March the 1st, 1861, inclusive, and none after. Exhibitors will deliver their "objects" at their own risk and charge, at the building in the Park; but they will be charged nothing while the goods are in the building. The productions of all nations will be exhibited together, under general classification; Foreign and Colonial productions will be admitted duty free (for exhibition only), and be treated as if in bond while exhibiting. Local organization should be perfected, and extended to Colonies. Should there be any surplus, it will be applied to purposes strictly in connexion with the ends of the exhibition, or to the establishment of similar exhibitions for the future.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.—An interesting meeting took place on Saturday afternoon at the residence of the Duchess of Sutherland, for the purpose of aiding his Royal Highness Prince Albert in carrying out the great exhibition of 1861. Resolutions were passed having for their object the furtherance of the exhibition. Lords Edward Howard and Dufferin were elected secretaries to the Ladies' Committee. A large number of peeresses were present.

On Saturday the Lord Mayor, Alderman Humphery, and the Rev. Mr. Marshall, the chaplain to the chief magistrate, had an interview with his Royal Highness Prince Albert, who accepted an invitation to dine at the Mansion-house, on Thursday, the 21st of March, in honour of the occasion of the forthcoming Great Art Exhibition. The entertainment will be of the most magnificent description, and several of the most illustrious men will be invited by the hospitable chief magistrate to meet his Royal Highness.

TO PROMOTERS OF PETITIONS.—A special report was presented to the House of Commons on Tuesday night week, from the Public Petitions Committee, representing the disregard of the orders and practice of the House, which require that every petition be signed by the petitioners themselves, by their names or marks, and by no one else, except in case of incapacity by sickness; and be signed by at least one person on the skin or sheet on which the petition is written. The report stated, that of the petitions for the abolition of Sunday labour in the Post-office, one from Stornoway purported to be signed by 646 persons, but a very small number of the signatures appeared to be genuine; one from Knock, Rosshire, purported to be signed by 1,037 persons, but not more than the first 10 signatures appeared to have been written by the individuals bearing the names appended, the rest being on different sheets, and each sheet written by the same person; one from Lochcarron, Rosshire, had 931 signatures, very few of which appeared to be written by the parties whose names were attached; one from Oban had 846 signatures, a large proportion of which were obviously not in the handwriting of the persons whose names were appended. A petition from Cork, for the abolition of ministers' money, purported to be signed by 12,340 persons; there were many sheets to the petitions, upon each of which a separate individual had obviously written all the names. The committee expressed a hope that members, by a more careful examination of the petitions entrusted to them, would co-operate with the committee in their attempts to guard the right of petition from abuse.

THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the members of this society was held at Edinburgh on Wednesday last, the 20th inst., John Parker, Esq., in the chair. The Report, which was submitted to the meeting by Mr. A. K. Johnston, stated that, notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances connected with the public health and the commercial interests of the country, occurring during the past year, the amount of business done by the Society was fully one-third greater than that of 1848; and the amount of claims from deaths, during the year, had been very small—being only one per cent. The number of policies issued by the Society amounted now to upwards of four thousand. The Report also stated that a committee had been appointed "to ascertain, in as far as possible, the value of life in extra-European countries—the influence of climate on longevity—and the localities visited by prevalent or periodic disease," with a view of extending the usually proscribed geographical limits of travelling to the assured. The Report of the Committee, it was hinted, would be favourable towards such an extension. We are inclined to think that a liberal regulation in regard to this subject is more and more necessary, and that the absence of it, together with the strict rules of many companies, has prevented a number of persons from taking advantage of insurance societies. The number of proposals accepted during the year, it was also stated, was 567, and the additional yearly premiums thus secured to the Society amounted to £7,212 16s. 11d. The adoption of the Report was moved by Mr. Lawson, and seconded by Mr. Gifford, and unanimously agreed to.

A full account of the proceedings of the meeting, together with a copy of the Report presented, will be found in our last page.

SIR R. PEEL AND THE PROTECTIONISTS.—The following are copies of letters which have passed between Mr. Bagge and Sir R. Peel with reference to the unwarrantable language reported to have been used by Mr. Bagge at a Protectionist meeting in Norfolk:—

London, Monday, Feb. 4, 1850.

Sir,—On perusing the report of the observations I made at the late meeting at Swaffham, I find therein expressions which might be considered personally offensive to yourself—expressions which, if I did employ them, were used unintentionally, in the moment of excitement. I intended to have explained this on the presentation of the petition, but from its non-arrival, and my being obliged to leave this day, I have thought it best to write this letter to you in explanation, and to assure you that I had no intention of impugning your honour or veracity.

I have, &c.,

W. BAGGE.

To the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart.

London, Feb. 6, 1850.

Sir,—I have just received, on my return to London this day, your letter of the 4th instant. I thought it highly probable that if, amid the excitement of a public meeting, expressions had been used by you which, on reflection, you felt to be unwarrantable, you would voluntarily take the course which you have taken—a course more satisfactory to my feelings, as well as to your own, than any other—and offer of your own accord such a reparation as that which your letter conveys.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT PEEL.

W. Bagge, Esq.

RIOT AND LOSS OF LIFE AT A PROTECTIONIST MEETING.—The *Dorset County Chronicle*, of the 21st inst., says:—"A great county meeting was held at the County Hall, at 12 o'clock on Wednesday last, for the purpose of addressing the Queen, and petitioning Parliament for efficient measures of protection to British industry. The High Sheriff occupied the chair. During the delivery of the speeches a tremendous row ensued between the Free-traders and Protectionists; and when the meeting separated a regular fight took place. The farmers and their leaders were assailed with stones, and they fought with sticks and riding-whips. During the affray a young man named Allen was struck to the ground by one of the farmers, and was carried apparently lifeless to the county hospital, where he expired in a few hours. The utmost efforts are making to discover who inflicted the blow on the unfortunate young man. Many of the Protectionists were severely wounded."

PROPOSED ENCROACHMENT ON GREENWICH PARK.—Part of Greenwich-park is about to be appropriated to residences for the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital. The ground is already marked out. The attempt to appropriate part of the park for this purpose has been before made, but successfully resisted.

THE ARMY AND ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.—The total of the sums required to defray the expenses in the Ordnance Department for 1850-1, as they are stated in the estimates, is £2,434,417; the total voted for 1849-50 was £2,632,601. This gives a reduction on the whole of £198,184. Of the total reduction it appears, therefore, that £158,259 is made on the items of ordnance stores and buildings, in which the report of last session's committee of the House of Commons showed there was such a profligate excess of expenditure. Sir James Graham, Mr. Cobden, and the other gentlemen who composed the majority of that committee can scarcely accept this paltry reduction as a sufficient instalment of retrenchment or change of system. The changes in the other estimates are rather the result of annual oscillations than of permanent charges. The proposed reductions in the army estimates amount to £122,814, almost the whole of which is saved by the reduction of the number of privates.

EXTRAMURAL INTERMENT.

The following are the especial advantages which the Board of Health expects the public to derive from the adoption of their proposed plan for the abolition of intramural interments:—

1. It will put an end to intramural interment, with all its attendant evils.

2. It will obviate any injurious effects on the public health from the practice of extramural interment.

If its principles are acted on, in any use that may be made of existing cemeteries care will be taken to interpose between the spots where interments take place and neighbouring houses a sufficient space for the safety of the inhabitants; while the site contemplated for a national cemetery is so remote from the metropolis as to render it highly improbable that it can ever be approached by a suburban population.

From the concurrent testimony of gravediggers, sextons, and others, employed in churchyards, it appears that decomposition invariably goes on more rapidly near the roots of the trees than in any other parts of the burial-ground; that the earth is always much drier near the roots of trees than elsewhere; that the fibres of the roots are drawn towards the site of the grave, and are often observed to penetrate right through the decayed wood of the coffin lid. It is probable, therefore, that these roots are actively and unceasingly at work absorbing the products of decomposition as they are evolved, and thus preventing their escape to the surface, and consequently their pernicious effects.

In this manner, by arresting these noxious matters in their course, the plant, instead of allowing them to go forth on an errand of destruction, retains them at the moment when they are about to be resolved into their physical elements, within the sphere of life, to recommence a new cycle, of organic, healthful, and useful existence.

It is reported by Dr. Sutherland that he found the great utility of vegetation in shortening the period of decay fully recognised abroad; and that it was stated to him at Paris, as a reason for burying only one body in a grave, that the quantity of vegetation which could be placed on the grave could dispose most readily of the gaseous matters of the body, and shorten the period of interment by eating out the nutritious matter of the soil; but this was not the case where more than one body had been buried, and that the quantity of organic matter was found to be much larger when the ground was re-opened in such cases.

The action of vegetation in arresting the products of decomposition, and preventing them from reaching the surface, by re-combining them into living and healthful vegetable structures, would afford a simple and effectual means of putting an end to any further injury to the public health from the existing burial-grounds, if, after they have been finally closed, they were, wherever practicable, planted with trees, and still preserved as sacred spots.

By proper regulations as to the number of interments, and the depth of the graves, in suitable situations and soil, and by the aid of an abundant and healthy vegetation (which, however, it is impossible to obtain in crowded cities), the noxious matters evolved from natural decomposition in the earth may probably be so diluted and dispersed as to remove almost entirely, if not entirely, any injurious influence from this source.

Since, therefore (they conclude), it is practicable to remove all physical objections to burial; since its expense may be so reduced as to obviate all ground of objection to it on the score of economy; and since moral considerations also are in favour of the practice, bearing in mind the universal feelings of the population at the present time in all countries, it appears that, upon the whole, this is the most eligible and natural mode of disposing of the dead.

3. By the regulation of the price of funerals at certain fixed scales of charges, and by the payment of the whole cost of the funeral in one sum, it will relieve families, at the moment when they are the least capable of attention to such matters, from care or trouble, and from the possibility of extortion.

4. By the saving of expense, which will be effected by the whole of the interments being performed on one system and under one direction, it will render the cost of burial moderate to all classes, and give to the poor the advantage of extramural interment at a reduction of the price which they at present pay for burial in the parochial graveyard.

5. By the appointment of officers of health, and the establishment of houses of reception, it will diminish or remove the physical and moral evils which result from the long retention of the corpse in single living and sleeping rooms, and thus, for all these reasons, it will fulfil the primary object of the change; namely, the removal of the whole of the sanitary evils which arise from the present practice of interment.

6. It will greatly diminish the practice now so common of funeral processions in crowded streets. The body will be conveyed respectfully, but silently and unobtrusively, to the cemetery; and within the precincts of the cemetery only will the funeral procession be formed. Here there will be no noise or bustle, none of the discordant and inappropriate sounds and sights that meet the ear and eye in the busy city; no intrusion of the spirit and pursuit of traffic and gain; no persons will be present but those who are called there to take part in the solemn scene, and most of whom will have personal sympathy with it; while all the objects that meet the senses and that call up associations in the minds of the real mourners will be in harmony with their thoughts and feelings, and will tend to soothe them, as far as anything external can at such a moment exercise a soothing influence.

7. It will increase the solemnity and impressiveness of burial. The peculiar observance and rites calculated to produce this effect must of course be different in different persons and classes, according to different modes and habits of thought and feeling, and different views of religion. But the ecclesiastical authorities will have it in their power to adopt the means which they may deem the best calculated for the performance of this last duty to the dead in the manner the most appropriate to the wishes and feelings of their respective religious communities.

The religious authorities with whom we have consulted have represented to us their sense of the importance of providing means for the celebration of funeral rites under circumstances which will naturally revive and strengthen the impressions and feelings associated with

the usual performance of divine service. They, therefore, deem it desirable that in the consecrated part of the eastern cemetery a church should be erected of sufficient magnitude to obtain the effect of solemnity and impressiveness that may be derived from appropriate architecture; and they are of opinion that, however the design and execution of such an edifice may fulfil this object, the end will be still more completely attained by the appropriation of the building as a church in which, especially on the Sundays, the usual services of that day may be performed. They have expressed their conviction that many would attend those services with peculiar interest, from the consciousness of their nearness at that moment to all that remains on earth of the objects of their affections; and that there would be no difficulty in rendering the celebration of funeral rites in a church thus doubly suggestive of the most touching associations incomparably more solemn and imposing than has hitherto been effected in this country, excepting, perhaps, in some rare instances, as on the occasion of the interment of royal persons, or of men whom the country has endeavoured to honour by the expression of national gratitude for national services. It might be very practicable to secure also the impressive accompaniment of music, whether by the performance of a single voluntary or by some form of choral service, and it is conceived that there are many on whom the compositions of our great masters would, on such an occasion, have an elevating and consoling effect; but these details must be confided to those who may be charged with the direction of this service in communication with ecclesiastical authorities.

In the unconsecrated part of the ground chapels may be erected, convenient for the celebration of funeral rites and the performance of divine service according to the modes of worship of those who dissent from the doctrine and ritual of the Church of England.

8. It will elevate the celebration of the funeral rites of the poor man, and tend to remove, in respect to the services of the Church in the performance of burial, the distinction between rich and poor. Though funerals may still differ in costliness, and be performed, according to the scale chosen, with more or less expensive materials, a greater or fewer number of attendants, and so on, yet these differences need have no relation to the celebration of funeral rites. We concur in the earnest opinion expressed by clerical witnesses, that within the church, in the performance of the religious service over the dead, there should be no distinction of persons, and that an important moral and religious object would be fulfilled by adherence to this principle.

9. We also fully concur in the opinion which the same witnesses have expressed, that moral and religious purposes cannot fail to be answered, individually and nationally, by making the abode of the dead a hallowed spot, and by investing it with the utmost solemnity and sacredness. The evidence which we have adduced contains the strongest expression of opinion on the part both of clergymen and medical men—the best authorities on this subject, for they truly know what passes in the crowded hovels of our dismal courts and alleys—that the familiarity with the dead, which in numerous instances is at present forced upon the residents there, tends to brutalize the mind, to destroy the sense of the sacredness of life, and to predispose it to violence and crime; but all who are really acquainted with the humbler classes entertain the conviction that they are peculiarly susceptible of the moral and religious impressions naturally produced by the loss of relatives and friends; that the solemn and impressive burial of their dead would strengthen these impressions; and that the places in which their dead repose might be made instrumental in soothing, refining, and elevating their minds.

The *Observer* thinks that Erith is the place hinted at by the Board of Health as the most fitting site for a national cemetery.

SUPPRESSION OF THE WEST-END GAMBLING-HOUSES.—On Saturday night the numerous gaming-houses in the vicinity of Jermyn-street, St. James's, Regent-street, and Leicester-square, were, by order of the Commissioners of Police, placed under a close surveillance. Two constables were stationed at the entrance of each house, to note down and describe the persons entering therein. They will be relieved at stated intervals, the surveillance to continue, without intermission, night and day. It is anticipated that this will effectually put a stop to these places, numbers having again sprung into existence. —*Globe*.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—On Friday night, a collier named John Thomas, in the employ of Messrs. Wayne, of Aberdare, had retired to rest, and had fallen to sleep, when he was suddenly awoken by a noise. On the floor of the room he saw something burning, and immediately got up to extinguish it. Before he could do so it exploded with immense violence, so that his escape seems almost miraculous. The roof of the house was lifted off; all the partitions in the house were blown down, but Thomas, although severely burnt, is considered out of danger. His wife and three children, who were in bed with him at the time, escaped unhurt. Upon examination it was found that a stocking filled with gunpowder, to which a fusee was attached, had been thrown through the window, the breaking of which had most probably awoken Thomas and his wife. It appears that the cause of this diabolical attempt arose out of several strikes which have taken place between the workmen at the several collieries in the neighbourhood. The whole matter is undergoing an investigation. —*Globe*.

AN EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION took place on Saturday night, at Elm-lodge Farm, Reading, the property of Mr. George Higgs. An area of at least half an acre was in flames—barns, stables, cow-houses, granaries full of corn, wheat-ricks, even the cow-cribs in the yard, were all destroyed by the devouring element. The horses were saved. A boy escaped in a state of nudity. Two valuable cows were burnt. Pigs and fowls shared the same fate. This is the third fire within fourteen days within three miles of Reading. Mr. Higgs, who is a resident director of the County Fire Office, is fully insured.

LAW AND POLICE.

A TALE OF MISERY AND CRIME.—A woman named Higgins, the wife of a wheelwright, living in Portman-market, was sent to trial during last week, charged with having attempted to murder her three children, of the respective ages of seven years, five years, and seven months, by drowning, and to terminate her own existence by the same means. A witness named Ann West deposed that on Monday evening, as she was coming up the Bloomfield-road, adjoining the Regent's-canal, she saw the prisoner lower the baby gently into the water, and instantly gave an alarm. The prisoner then put another child into the canal, and having done that, she went in herself, dragging the third child in with her. The water appeared very deep. One of the children cried out "Father," and another "Help!" A man came running, pulled off his coat and hat, and was going to jump in, when another young man plunged head foremost in, and, being a good swimmer, rescued the prisoner and her family from a watery grave. At the doctor's the first expression used by the prisoner, as soon as she was in some measure restored, was, "What has become of my dear children?" And when she saw her baby, she burst into tears. John Rollins, a painter, at 6, Devonshire-street, Lisson-grove, was the man who saved them. Prisoner said to Mrs. West, "What a foolish woman you were to give the alarm, for I wish that I and my dear children had all gone to heaven, as I have lived so wretched a life with my husband." The husband (who sat by the side of the bar) had in his arms one of the children. The prisoner told the magistrate that it was all through her husband's bad conduct. He beat her very frequently, and for no other reason than she had no dinner provided for him at times when he came home. He earned twenty-seven shillings a week, and out of that gave her the odd seven shillings to keep house, and find everything; the twenty shillings he spent entirely upon himself. The children will, for the present, be taken care of in the workhouse. The magistrate praised highly the conduct of Rollins, and hoped he would be handsomely rewarded by the Royal Humane Society.

SWINDLING BY A CLERGYMAN.—At the Marlborough-street office, on Tuesday week, the Rev. Richard Child Willis was brought up for final examination, charged with various frauds on hotel-keepers. Mr. Thomas, proprietor of Hatchett's Hotel, Piccadilly, said he knew the prisoner, who on the 11th of April last was staying at his hotel. On that day the prisoner sent for him, and stated that he was obliged to go out of town at ten o'clock that morning, and asked him to be good enough to give him the difference between a receipt for £14 13s. 1d., from the Treasurer of Queen Anne's Bounty, and his hotel bill of £3 8s. 6d., as he would not be able to send in time to the treasurer, whose office did not open until eleven o'clock, and the train started at ten. He acceded to the prisoner's request, and gave him £11 4s. 7d., in the belief that the statement was correct. The receipt was afterwards presented to Mr. Hodgson, the treasurer, but the money was not paid. It appeared by further evidence that at least six receipts for the same half-year's dividend, due on the 5th of April, were presented at the office prior to the receipt brought by Mr. Thomas. The next case was for obtaining money on a spurious cheque from Mr. Smith, wine merchant, in Leicester-square, who had known the prisoner for several years. On the 12th of February the prisoner called on him, and asked him to change a cheque for £2 upon Drummond's bank. The prisoner asked for pen and paper, and wrote the cheque. He said if witness would give him the money it would save him a journey to his hotel at London-bridge. He gave the prisoner two sovereigns and received the cheque. On cross-examination witness said the prisoner was not a stranger to him. He had known the prisoner for years, and had several times taken wine with him, and had dined with him. If the prisoner had asked for two sovereigns, witness would have given them to him. The cheque was returned with "no effects." There was another case of a similar kind which was heard before. The prisoner, who made no defence, was fully committed.

APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT.—One day last week, Mr. Jardine, the Bow-street magistrate, sentenced two "gentlemanly" drunkards and brawlers to seven days' imprisonment.

THE RUSSIAN LOAN.—The mercantile advices from Vienna mention that it was reported from St. Petersburg that the recent loan would not be sufficient for the completion of the Moscow Railway, and that an additional 30,000,000 roubles would be required. —*Times*.

The Marquis of Londonderry has given the Primitive Methodists a large piece of land in one of the best situations at Seaham Harbour, on which to erect a chapel; as also the stone required for the building, from one of his quarries. —*Sunderland Herald*.

HAYSTACK CHAPEL.—We understand that the above chapel is about to be closed for the three following Sabbaths, when it is intended to lay a covering of felt over the roof, in order to remedy the defect in its construction, which will occasion great additional expense to this infant cause. This will, we should hope, stimulate committees to look well after their architects as well as their builders.

Several rubies, found in the mining regions of California, have been received in the United States.

COURT, OFFICIAL, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

THE QUEEN preserves excellent health; visiting and receiving visitors, going to the play frequently, and taking her accustomed exercise.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND had an audience of the Queen yesterday week; and presented two addresses to her Majesty, from occupiers of land, complaining of severe distress, and praying for a dissolution of Parliament; thirty-three addresses from the agricultural class or classes connected with it, complaining of distress; and twenty-five memorials from factory workers in various places, in favour of the Ten Hours Act.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.—Sir C. Wood is gradually recovering from his recent severe illness, and was able to receive Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey on Saturday afternoon. Some weeks must, it is thought, elapse ere the right hon. baronet will be able to attend to business in the House of Commons.

CONVICTS IN AUSTRALIA.—It is in contemplation to form a separate convict establishment in Western Australia, under the superintendence of Commander Henderson, R.N. —*Observer*.

IRISH RAILWAYS.—DEPUTATION TO THE PREMIER. —A deputation, consisting of the following gentlemen, waited upon Lord John Russell, at his official residence in Downing-street, on Thursday last; viz., Sir Robert Ferguson, Bart., M.P.; Captain Jones, M.P.; Mr. James Clay, M.P.; the Hon. H. T. Lowry Corry, M.P.; Mr. Thomas Bateson, M.P.; Mr. R. J. Tennent, M.P.; Captain Archdall, M.P.; Lord Claude Hamilton, M.P.; Mr. Alderman Humphery, M.P.; and Mr. Frederick H. Hemming. The object of the deputation was to present memorials which had been agreed to at some large and influential meetings recently held in the north-west of Ireland, calling on the Government to give assistance towards the completion of the railways commenced in that part of the country. Lord John Russell gave marked attention to the statements of the several speakers; and, having made some queries thereon, stated that the memorials should receive every consideration.

THE COMTE DE NEUILLY.—The ex-King of the French, with his family, and suite, have taken up their residence again at the Star and Garter, Richmond.

On Wednesday morning, John Mirehouse, Esq., the Common Serjeant of the City of London, departed this life.

The *Gazette* of Friday night announces that Prince Albert will, by desire of her Majesty, hold levees at St. James's Palace, on behalf of her Majesty, on Wednesday the 6th, and on Wednesday the 20th, of March next.

The *Scotsman* of Edinburgh is "able to announce that it is the intention of her Majesty, either in going to or returning from Balmoral next autumn, to visit Holyrood Palace," and the probability that she will spend a few days there with her Court.

Of Lord Denman the *Daily News* says—"We have good reason for believing that at the close of the present Guildhall sittings this distinguished judge, so long an ornament of the legal profession, will resign his high office into the Queen's hands. The noble and learned lord, we believe, has solicited an audience for the purpose."

MR. COBDEN.—We regret to learn that a domestic affliction (the death of an infant daughter), prevented Mr. Cobden from attending the debate on Mr. Disraeli's motion. —*Daily News*.

LORD GOUGH AND MAJOR EDWARDS arrived at Southampton on Sunday by the "Indus." A large concourse of persons assembled at the docks to witness the arrival of the two distinguished warriors. At a meeting of the Town Council on Saturday, after a good deal of discussion for and against the propriety of presenting an address to Lord Gough, the Council divided, when the numbers were 9 for and 9 against, the mayor giving his casting vote against it.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT "was so unwell during the past week as to be precluded from the performance of Parliamentary or public duties."

THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY is "very unwell," and similarly incapacitated.

THE SALE of the Queen Dowager's effects has been at length brought to a close, and scarce anything remains to be sold. The amount realized is said to be something under £20,000—a sum much greater than would have been secured under the hammer.

Burritt's *Citizen*, the *National Era*, and other papers, seem to have taken up warmly Dr. Dick's case. Nearly 300 dollars had been realized up to January 26th, and the Philadelphia publishers propose to issue a new edition of Dr. Dick's complete works, engaging to remit to the Doctor two dollars upon every copy sold.

An important agitation, headed by Elihu Burritt, seems to be springing up, for the adoption of a uniform two-cent postage throughout the States; the success of our penny post is adduced in support of the proposal.

BURNS, the Scottish bard, designated the tooth-ache "the hell of all diseases!" And he was not far wrong. This hell, however, is not a "bottomless pit." Fill up the cavity of the decayed tooth, and the torturing fires are extinguished. Brande's Enamel, placed into the decayed spot, prevents irritating substances from reaching the nerve, and kindling that inflammation wherein which gives the terrible pain known as the tooth-ache. This substance is used, without heat, in a soft state, and becomes hard in a few minutes, rendering unsound teeth painless and useful for many years.

LITERATURE.

More Verses and Prose by the Corn-law Rhymers.
Vol. I. London: Charles Fox.

EBENEZER ELLIOTT received full measure of justice from his contemporaries, even from those to whom his politics were most offensive and hateful. More than fifteen years ago Christopher North wrote his generous and discriminating paper in *Blackwood*; and, before that, Carlyle's fine criticism on Elliott's poetry had appeared in the *Edinburgh Review*. A passage in the latter remains, as yet, the best thing written of the works of "The Corn-law Rhymers":—"We might rather liken them to some little fraction of a rainbow: hues of joy and harmony painted out of troublous tears. No round full bow, indeed, gloriously spanning the heavens—shone on by the full sun—and, with seven-striped, gold-crimson border (as is in some sort the office of poetry), dividing black from brilliant: not such, alas, still far from it! Yet, in very truth, a little prismatic blush, glowing genuine among the wet clouds; which proceeds, if you will, from a sun cloud-hidden, yet indicates that a sun does shine, and above those vapours a whole azure vault and celestial firmament stretch serene."

The present volume is the first of two which constitute Ebenezer Elliott's bequest to his countrymen. It is much to say that they are worthy of his fame, though scarcely likely to increase it. There is nothing here to be compared with "The Village Patriarch," and the political verses are not like those which startled us aforesaid; but we have still the clear thought, the truth of nature, the genuineness and passion which mark the poet. It is true he is sometimes dull and tasteless, and sometimes he exaggerates and rants—but, over all the ruggednesses of his nature are poured forth living waters, from a heart of love and guileless sincerity. His art is not great, but fine instincts have served him instead. And if the definition of poetry be true, that it is "highest knowledge," Elliott's will abide the test—if it be a merit that the poet's work be done as work, he will have that praise.

In this volume are *Lyrics—Ballads—Small Poems*, chiefly political—*The Year of Seeds*, "A Cycle of Revolutionary Sonnets"—and a longer poem, entitled *Ethelina*. From each division of the contents we could quote with delight, but as we hope the reader will purchase and peruse the volume, our extracts shall be such only as may help to induce him to do so. The first shall be "Farewell to Rivilin," which, though now finding its place in some "Poets' Corner" of almost every journal, is too beautiful, in its music and pathos, to be omitted:—

"Beautiful river! goldenly shining,
Where with the cistus woodbines are twining;
(Birklands around thee, mountains above thee,) Rivilin wildest! do I not love thee?"

Why do I love thee, heart-breaking river?
Love thee, and leave thee? Leave thee for ever?
Never to see thee, where the storms greet thee!
Never to hear thee, rushing to meet me!

Never to hail thee, joyfully chiming
Beauty in music, sister of Wiming!
Playfully mingling laughter and sadness,
Ribbledin's sister! sad in thy gladness.

Why must I leave thee, mournfully sighing
Man is a shadow? River undying!
Dream-like he passeth, cloud-like he wasteth,
E'en as a shadow over thee hasteth.

Oh, when thy poet, weary, reposes,
Coffin'd in slander, far from thy roses,
Tell all thy pilgrims, heart-breaking river!
Tell them I lov'd thee—love thee for ever!

Yes, for the spirit blooms ever vernal;
River of beauty! love is eternal:
While the rock reeleth, storm-struck and riven,
Safe is the fountain 'flowing from heaven.'

There wilt thou hail me, joyfully chiming
Beauty in music, sister of Wiming!
Homed with the angels, hasten to greet me,
Glad as the heath-flower, glowing to meet thee."

There are two of the *Small Poems* which are very characteristic, "Let me rest," and "Not for Nought;" and, of a different order, here is a criticism for such as believe in Goethe:—

WRITTEN AFTER READING GOETHE'S "FAUST."
"Clothe truth in light, and men shall deem thee mad;
But give to thought a dream's profundities,
And learning's self, for worth they never had,
Shall praise thy pages, and pronounce thee wise:
Old readers still shall find thee new to them,
As o'er thy lines for hidden wealth they pore,
To prop the Ancient House of Fallacies:
At each old nothing, wondering more and more;
Shouting 'Eureka,' as they turn it o'er;
Shall each discoverer laud his special gem!
For deep and safe the buried meaning lies,
That never liv'd, and therefore never dies."

There are many Epigrams, Epitaphs, &c., some of them with abundance of point and strength, from which we select the following:—

"What is a Communist? One who bath yearnings
For equal division of unequal earnings:
Idler, or bungler, or both, he is willing
To fork out his penny, and pocket your shilling!"

To which Ebenezer adds a note, "And he has two names, Legion and Danger!" And again—

"Old as lying, thrives a College
Famous for its truth-forsakers,
Givers who are always takers,
Takers ever wide-awake,
Sworn to give less than they take;
And never giving knowledge."

And the note to this epigram is, "All monopolists have the honour to be members of this ancient society; and originally, their great ancestor, the first conjurer (who came in before the conqueror), had the honour to be the Institution itself!" We may also hear Ebenezer on "State Education":—

"Give stipends to a host of slaves;
They'll help to guard our hoards:
We cannot have too many knaves
Dependent on us lords."

"The Year of Seeds" is perhaps the wealthiest portion of the volume, as the following extracts will show:—

"Hath April wept herself into a dream
Of wondrous joy? or a reality
Fairer and brighter than all dreaming? Deem
Not lightly, bard, of her regality
In goodness. Lo, the beautiful are strong!
Lo, gentlest love is power, whose noiseless stream
Keeps fresh the sea of life, which else would teem
Only with plagues! Oh, gold-bill'd Ouzle's song!
Hath Love's still might wak'd thee? Love's April
coldly

Primrose airs breathe round thee. Clouds behold thee,
And mix thy music with their blushes. Morn,
Dew-glistening morn, is silvering rock and tree,
While shadows shorten o'er the whitening thorn,
Perch'd on whose topmost twig the woodwale hymneth
thee."

"The footprints of departed life remain
For hours, or years, or age-long years of years,
On sand, clay, stone. Thus, chroniclers of tears
Die, but not so Time's History of Pain.
Rooted on graves, Truth bears a living flower!
Man may forgive, but wounds their scars retain
As warnings! and the powers of good ordain
That to forget shall not be in our power.
For worst ills, too, have roots: they are the fruit
Of plotted action worn to habitude;
And the grey dynasties of Force might live,
Safe in their privilege of fraud and feud,
If agony died recordless and mute,
And to forget were easy as forgive."

Many more of these sonnets are delightfully refreshing; others breathe sadness over us; and all are "seeds" of thoughts and sympathies the purest and the best. We have not quoted from the *Ballads* or from *Ethelina*; the prose, too, we have passed by, consisting of introductions and notes to the poems, full of vigorous writing and suggestive sayings.

On the morning of the last day of Ebenezer Elliott's last year, he questioned thus with himself:—

"What have I won
In worthy strife? What good work unbegun
Awaits me? Father, I must soon appear
Before thee, to be sentenced. If I strove
In kindness, I am safe. What is our own?
That only which we build for thee and thine.
Who shall reap love, unless he sow in love?
If I have labour'd for myself alone,
I need no lock'd strong coffer: nought is mine!"

Not in vain has Elliott made his poet's protest for the rights and dignities of labour—not in vain has he beautified and ennobled the life of the poor; and when his poetry shall be, as it ought, much more in the hearts of the people, it will prove its power to purify the mind, to consume bareness, and to arouse the most generous virtues. Then fond affections will gather around his name—a name which must become a familiar household word.

Introduction to the Books of the Old and New Testament. By A. SCHUMANN. London: Simpkin and Co.

THIS volume is one of the translations issued by Dr. Beard. With the general purpose of the translator, in this and other publications, we have a deep and sincere sympathy. But, as it may be supposed that this volume furnishes the student with a sufficient "Introduction to the Old and New Testaments," it is necessary to say that, as such, even as "a book of results," it is meagre and unsatisfactory. Schumann is "a scholar of Gesenius and De Wette in theology," and presents the results of the negative criticism of Germany—or that which opposes the genuineness of the disputed books in the canon. The questions involved can be decided only by a scientific investigation, which may compel us to abandon common beliefs. But, supposing such results arrived at, to many of them it is sufficient to reply, that the surrender of certain received authorships, or of the genuineness of certain assailed passages, does not needfully destroy our confidence in, or weaken the evidence for, the credibility and authority of the writings themselves. Other results of this criticism, however, involve the most important practical consequences; as, for instance, the conclusion, in which our author coincides, that the Pentateuch is formed from two original compositions, of which the more ancient dates only from the time of Samuel and Saul, and the less ancient so recently as the age of Solomon; so that "dogmatic pre-judgments" alone could maintain the Mosaic origin of the Pentateuch in face of the "clear reasons" alleged against it. And, again, that the Book of Daniel is supposititious, written long after his day, even so

late as the period of the Maccabees. These and other views of the "negative" criticism have been often confuted, and those who desire the fullest information may obtain it from Hengstenberg's contributions to an Introduction, or Stuart's Old Testament Canon. The "main purpose" of this translation is, moreover, as stated in the preface, "to allow English students an opportunity of judging how inconsiderable is the breach" which this criticism has been able to effect: a purpose which the volume, though it have no other use, is likely to serve,—especially as these last results are less sceptical than some stated in previous Introductions. Thus, the author admits the genuineness of the first two chapters of Matthew; also, the authenticity of John's Gospel, and of the Pastoral Epistles, notwithstanding the acumen with which objections in denial have been brought forward by De Wette, Baur, and others. The translator has added some judicious notes: the principal are on the genuineness of the Pentateuch and of Daniel; the authenticity of the latter portion of Isaiah; and a valuable extract, from Lisco, on the Chronicles. These notes may not always command assent, but are calculated to deepen the impression which the work itself will make on the mind of every intelligent reader, that, under the most keenly directed and powerfully sustained oppositions, the authenticity and integrity of the sacred books is confirmed and secure.

Orissa, the Garden of Superstition and Idolatry; including an Account of British Connexion with the Temple of Jagannath; to which are added, Lighter Literary Recreations of a Critic Abroad. By WILLIAM F. B. LAURIE, Lieut. Madras Artillery. London: Johnstone and Hunter.

"WHO," asks Lieut. Laurie, in criticising English Reviews of the work of another writer—"who can pass an unquestionably fair opinion on an Indian book, without having been in India?" We have not been in India—shall we then pass over this volume?—Hear, too, how the author repudiates the praise to which, perhaps, he thinks himself exposed—"after the perusal of the work, an officious and unwished-for indulgence is often given by the critic—simply because the author happens to be a military man." This writer, himself a critic, has but little respect for the guild—what does he deserve at the hands of critics?

He shall have strict justice. He has written a good book; not a popular, or a widely useful book—yet a good book. Its contents were first published as contributions to the *Calcutta Review*, a periodical which has maintained a very high character. There are three papers on Orissa—a province which, notwithstanding its many peculiarities and sources of interest, and its nearness (300 miles), to the seat of the supreme government, is comparatively little known both to English readers and Indian residents. Taking the three papers referred to as a whole, they contain a brief history of the Orissa district, and its feudal chieftains; an account of the town of Puri; the neighbouring Black Pagoda; and the once famous city of Bhubaneser, a "world of temples" and majestic ruins. In the description of Puri, the writer accumulates all possible information respecting the origin of the worship of Jagannath, and the creation of the extraordinary temple establishment there. He traces the history of British connexion with the support of the worship of this "Moloch of the East," and having had access to all necessary documents, establishes satisfactorily the conclusion, at which other investigators have arrived, that there is no pledge or engagement whatever for the continuance of the annual grant in support of the horrible rites and unutterable iniquities of the temple and festival of Jagannath. As to the means used for obtaining the abolition of this payment, Lieut. Laurie has so written as to draw on himself the rebukes of a Cutchak missionary. We do not think his remarks ill-intentioned, especially as he has elsewhere borne honourable testimony to the zealous and valuable operations of the missionaries. He concludes this part of his volume with an extract from the *Edinburgh Review*, No. CLXX., to which we heartily respond. He says, "A recent writer wisely hopes, 'that ere long we shall be able to say, that whilst we accord the most complete toleration to the religions of our subjects, we take not the smallest part, direct or indirect, in their encouragement or support?'"

The volume is completed by papers on various subjects; among others, a chatty essay on "Letters and Letter-writing in India," a criticism on Southey's *Kehama*; and a journal "Overland—Homeward Bound," which displays considerable descriptive power.

The following books and pamphlets have also been received:—

The Soul; its Nature and Destinies. By Rev. P. THOMSON, A.M. London: Snow.—[Scriptural and plain discourses, of very practical character.]—*The Path of the Just: a Sketch of the History and Character of the late Mr. Joseph Ling, of Holloway.* By A. J. MORRIS. London: Gladding.—[The career of a useful and honoured Christian is here made to teach forcibly

what religion can do for a man, and what a man can do for religion." Life and character, given with pathos and power, bring out great truths, and serve spiritual purposes in this, as in other, funeral sermons by Mr. Morris, which are really models of fitness and simple beauty.]—*Religion, the Church, and the People.* A sermon, by J. H. THOM. London: Chapman.—[Thoughtful and powerful; in much to be praised, though we cannot recognise our religion and church in those of the author. Class isolation, and the too great removal of religion by a metaphysical theology, from the sphere of life, are well touched; and the recall of Christians from working by institutions to the individual relationships of life as a means of spiritual healing, is much needed in the present day.]—*Publications of the People's Association for promoting Health, Wealth, and Social Comfort.* London: Wertheim.—*Education: as it is, ought to be, and might be.* By JOSEPH BENTLEY. Part II. London: Johnstone.—*The Earliest and Best Means of Promoting the Social and Moral Elevation of the People.* By CHARLES BREWER.—*The Study of the Greek and Roman Classics, considered in relation to the Duties of Elementary Teachers.* By JOSHUA G. FITCH. London: Partridge and Oakey.—[A sensible pamphlet by one who has right thoughts upon education and the teacher's office.]—*The Second Book for Sunday-schools.* By WILLIAM VIDLER. Published by the Sunday-school Association.—[Intended for Unitarian schools, we should suppose: the treatment of subjects is unusually good.]—*Lessons on the Book of Jonah.* London: Hamilton and Co.—[A good help to home and Sabbath-school teaching.]—*The Comprehensive Class-book on English Grammar.* By THOMAS HALLIWELL. London: Jarrold and Sons.—*Ketchiana; or, the Punishment of Death by the Civil Law proved to be in Opposition to Enlightened Reason, and growing Social and Political Policy, &c. &c.* By Rev. A. DUNCANSON, Falkirk. London: Gilpin.—[Let any of our readers who want information, or have not arrived at conviction, on this subject, get this able and cheap pamphlet, and study its statistics and ponder its reasonings well.]—*Criticism Criticised: a Letter to a writer in the "Eclectic Review," on the Punishment of Death.* By Rev. J. C. HOUSTON. London: Whittaker and Co.—[We are glad this subject is discussed. Mr. H.'s views differ wholly from our own; but he has stated strongly the case for the continuance of death-punishment, so that the inquirer will find here all to be said on that side. We believe, however, that unbiased judgments will be helped hereby to opposite conclusions.]—*Penn Vindicated, and Macaulay Refuted.* London: Aylott and Jones.—*Motives to Piety.* By B. GLASSBROOK. London: Abercrombie.—*A Plea for the Right against Might.* An Essay on the Sabbath which received Prince Albert's Prize. By JOHN CORLEY. London: C. Gilpin.—*Faith and Virtue; or, Christian Manhood.* By JAMES MATHESON, B.A. London: Hamilton and Co.—[Good, but awfully verbose. Let the preacher carefully mend his style: why, on p. 14, is a sentence of 298 words!]—*Parental Power.* A Sermon. Sold on behalf of the Brading Congregational Church Building Fund.—*Daily Worship: a Chronological and Devotional Scripture Calendar, with Notes and Reflections.* By B. S. HOLLIS. London: Partridge and Oakey.—*A Supplement to the Revolution in Mind and Practice of the Human Race.* By ROBERT OWEN. London: Effingham Wilson.—*Solvency Guaranteed: a Plan for the application of Assurance to Debts and Monetary Risks of every Description.* By C. S. CAUSELL. London: Mann.—*The Christian Sabbath.* A Discourse. By JOHN HUNTER. Dundee: Durham.—*Transubstantiation Impossible, as shown by the Rubrics of the Roman Church.* London: Haselden.—*Traits of an Anti-Tractarian.* By a BARRISTER. Nos. 1, 2, and 3. London: C. Gilpin.—[A revision and piecemeal publication of a book published some time ago. Judging of the author's religious sympathies from these pages, they are abhorrent to us; and as we also deprecate some of the things complained of, the tone of popular religious tracts included, we confess we are sorry to have such a coadjutor.]—*The Morals of War; or, Ultra-Peace Principles proved to be Unchristian and Unphilosophical.* By a CIVILIAN. London: Simpkin and Co.—*The Justification of War, as the Medium of Civilization.* By GEORGE STEPHENS. London: Mitchell.—[The above two pamphlets give hopeful signs of human progress. But the other day it was assumed that war was a Christian thing; it has now to be proved: it is an open question, removed to debatable ground. The circulation of these pamphlets will help forward the cause of peace. Though we say this, we claim not to be included in the "Civilian's" category of "those whose insane politics would result only in common anarchy," as we have never advocated "ultra peace principles."]—*The Principles of Wesleyan Methodism, ascertained by Historical Analysis, and defended by Scripture and Reason.* An Essay adapted to the Present Times. By JAMES H. RIGGS, Wesleyan Minister. London: Partridge and Oakey; and Mason.—[We give the full title of this defence of Methodism "as it is;" it makes good every recent objection taken to the system. The "Scripture" of the defence is

scanty, and often irrelevant, and the "Reason" non est inventus.]—*Congregational Dissent, as it is, and as it ought to be.* A Letter, &c. BY JUNIUS SECUNDUS. London: Darling.—[We have already noticed this pamphlet, but as, by a gratuitous circulation, it has reached a second edition, we are compelled to repeat our previous verdict. Surely, he who seeks to reform others, ought himself to be reformed; we regret that Junius Secundus has overlooked this prerequisite. Whatever necessity may exist for reform in our Dissenting organisations—and we fully believe in that necessity—this writer has yet to learn that the publication of family matters, and the gratification of personal resentment, indefinitely postpone the advent of that reform. In our free, but we hope temperate, remarks on palpable and paralysing evils, not only tolerated, but apologised for, in certain quarters, we have had a higher motive than to obtain the flattering testimony of Junius Secundus that "the *Nonconformist* is superior to the *British Banner* in calmness, caution, and profound wisdom."]

GLEANINGS.

It is the intention of the Lord Mayor to give a grand banquet, next month, in celebration of the establishment of the great exhibition of 1851. Prince Albert and other members of the Royal Family are expected to be present.

The number of vehicles that passed the corner of Broadway and Fulton-street, New York, during twelve hours in one day recently, was ascertained to be 10,100!

A new colony of Mormons has been formed, and they have made a settlement 250 miles south of Salt Lake City.

Sixty-two Members of Parliament have claimed to be wholly excused from serving on election committees, on account of being more than sixty years old.

Hood gives this graphic picture of an irritable man: "He lies like a hedgehog rolled up the wrong way, tormenting himself with his prickles."

We read in a Sheffield paper that "the last polish to a piece of cutlery is given by the hand of a woman." The same may be said of human cutlery—that "the last polish to a young blade is given by his mixing with female society."—*Punch*.

Several horses, imported from Sydney, have been sold in London—the best for £80, the worst for £37.

The cold is so severe at Kamtschatka, that the Governor has been compelled to quit his usual residence at St. Peter and St. Paul to bury himself under the earth—that is to say, he has retired to his subterranean Palace, which is 20 metres below ground, and is capable of accommodating 200 persons. This palace is perpetually lighted by lamps. Most wealthy private persons have dwellings of this kind, but it is rarely cold enough to induce them to flee thither for refuge.—*Hamburgh Borsenhalle*.

The *Wilmington Chronicle* says, concerning Mr. Thurston having taken his seat at Washington as the representative of Oregon—"It was as the mighty Atlantic calling in a thundering tone to the equally mighty Pacific, 'I greet you to-day,' and the latter responding in the roar of its surges, 'I reciprocate your greeting.' The young giant of the West already stands with a foot on either ocean!"

The Editor of the *Aesthetic Journal* confesses to having chosen an awkward name. Some good folks take his periodical to be Atheistic, and won't look at it. Others buy it to learn lessons in gymnastics, and are disappointed. The poor Editor, worried for explanations, refers his persecutors to Brand and Francis's Dictionaries and the Penny Cyclopædia!

The Paris correspondent of the *Medical Times* states:—"M. Ramez has discovered that the bromuret of potassium enjoys the property of bringing on a degree of insensibility little less than that possessed by ether. When administered to the extent of five drachms during the day, it throws the patient into a kind of drunken torpor, which continues for several days."

Intellect, being God's gift, without respect to the stations in life of individuals, a highway ought to be always open that talent may exert itself for the advantage of its possessor and the community.

"In one of his public speeches against American slavery," says the *Liberator*, "Daniel O'Connell declared that 'Henry Clay was drowned in the tears of mothers and children.' The facile Theobald Mathew compliments the said Clay to his face, as 'the greatest man of the age!'"

It is said that the only daughter of the Rev. P. Brontë, incumbent of Haworth, near Bradford, is the authoress of "Jane Eyre" and "Shirley."

The Duke of Bedford, understanding his times, has caused it to be intimated to his tenants at Wansford and Thornhaugh (five miles south of Stamford) that it is his intention to have all the game in those parishes destroyed; a great destruction of hares, pheasants, and rabbits has consequently taken place.

From the official return made at New York, and published in the *New York Herald* of October 10th, it appears that up to that day in the year 1849, there had landed in that harbour alone 228,487 emigrants, of whom no less than 180,800 were Irish.

[Advertisement.]—PUBLIC TESTIMONIALS.—The following Medical Men, Gentlemen, and others, have given voluntary testimonials to cures effected in cases of Bronchitis, Asthma, Coughs, Colds, &c., &c., by BRAND'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE.—M. Nichols, the eminent French Physician; John Thompson, Esq., 35, English-street, Armagh; Major Sheppard Victoria Cottage, Romford; Thomas Richard, Hill Top, West Bromwich; David Goodridge, Portfield, near Haverfordwest; Wm. Davies, Dolgelly; William Hill, 48, Northampton-street, Clerkenwell; Eliza Woodley, Gibbon's-street, Plymouth; Mary Rogers, Dark-street, Haverfordwest; J. Wilcox, 16, Wilson-street, Stepney; Mrs. Sherwood, Beaumont Brian, Ludlow; and a host of others. This Medicine is sold by nearly all Chemists, or can be obtained through all the Agents for Brand's Emamel.

THE ADVENT OF SPRING.—The spring came, and brought the birds, and the flowers, and the new clergyman, who was ordained with all the pomp and ceremony usual on such occasions. The opening of the season furnished also the theme of his first discourse, which some of the congregation thought very beautiful, and others very incomprehensible. "Ah, how wonderful is the advent of spring! the great annual miracle of the blossoming of Aaron's rod, repeated on myriads and myriads of branches—the gentle progression and growth of herbs, flowers, trees,—gentle, and yet irrepressible, which no force can stay, no violence restrain, like love, that wins its way and cannot be withstood by any human power, because itself is Divine power. If spring came but once in a century, instead of once a year, or burst forth with the sound of an earthquake, and not in silence, what wonder and expectation would there be in all hearts to behold the miraculous change! But now the silent succession suggests nothing but necessity. To most men only the cessation of the miracles would be miraculous, and the perpetual exercise of God's power seems less wonderful than its withdrawal would be." . . . Such was the train of thought with which Kavanah commenced his sermon; and then, with deep solemnity and emotion, he proceeded to speak of the spring of the soul, as from its cheerless winter distance it turns nearer and nearer to the great Sun, and clothes its dry and withered branches anew with leaves and blossoms, unfolded from within itself, beneath the penetrating and irresistible influence.—*Longfellow's "Kavanah."*

BIRTHS.

February 14, at Merton, Surrey, the wife of the Rev. J. SHEDLOCK, M.A., of a daughter.

February 20, Mrs. BARDEN, of Hayes, Middlesex, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

February 19, at St. Giles's, Camberwell, by the Rev. S. C. Wilks, M.A., Mr. FREDERICK PICTON, of the British and Foreign School Society, to JANE, second daughter of J. B. WILKS, Esq., of the Hon. East India Company's Service.

February 19, at the Baptist Chapel, Bourton-on-the-Water, by the Rev. J. Statham, MARY, third daughter of the late Mr. T. HARRIS, of Little Rissington, to Mr. WILLIAM BEAL, of Tavistock-terrace, Holloway.

February 20, at the Old Meeting, Bedford, by license, by the Rev. S. Hilliard, Mr. JOHN PARRY GIBBERD, diaper, late of Bedford, and now of Bentley-place, Kingsland-road, London, to MARY ANN, second daughter of Mr. LINNEY, of the former place. The father of the bride, and also that of the bridegroom, are deacons of the church assembling in the Old Meeting.

February 20, at Shortwood Meeting-house, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. T. Shakespeare, GEORGE MARTIN to JANE ANN BARDING.

February 22, at Brook-street Chapel, Warwick, by the Rev. J. W. Perry, Mr. JOHN NAW to Miss MARTHA HUNSON, both of Leamington.

DEATHS.

February 12, at Southport, Lancashire, aged 74 years, Mr. HARRIS. He was blessed in London, under the ministry of the late Rev. Rowland Hill, half a century ago, and remained steadfast to the truth of the Gospel to the end of his pilgrimage—a modest "Israelite indeed, in whom there was no guile."

For many years he was the senior deacon of the Independent church at Southport.

February 14, at 19, Portland-street, Kingsdown, Bristol, aged 57, the Rev. WILLIAM REEVE, for many years missionary in India in connexion with the London Missionary Society, and, subsequently, pastor of the Independent Chapel, Ouseworthy, Shropshire. As he lived, so he died in peace, and in the joyful hope of a resurrection to eternal life.

February 16, at Shrewsbury, EDWARD DODDREDGE, infant son of the Rev. E. HILL.

February 16, at his seat, at Brownslade, Pembrokeshire, JOHN MERRIS, Esq., the Common Sergeant of the City of London.

February 20, of apoplexy, aged 71, respected by all who knew him, Mr. JOSEPH PHILIPS, of 44, Paternoster-row, and 6, Winchester-place, Fentonville.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

There has been a large delivery of English Stock during the past week, and consequently a heavy market. Prices have fluctuated considerably each day, but without any permanent advance or decline. There is an evident disposition, however, to bring about a rise in the market, and but for the amount of stock thrown upon it we have little doubt that an advance would have taken place. Consols are now at the same quotation as at our last writing, but Exchequer Bills and Bank Stock have slightly improved.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	95½	95½	94½	94½	95	94½
Cons. for Acct.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3 per Ct. Red.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
New 3 per Ct.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Annuities...	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
India Stock ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Stock ..	206½	206½	207 6	—	207	—
Excheq. Bills.	57 pm.	57 pm.	54 pm.	57 pm.	57 pm.	57 pm.
India Bonds ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuity.	94	94	94 16	94 16	—	94

The Foreign Market has been dull, and Peruvian Bonds are the only security which have attracted much attention. Mexican has improved to 29½, and Peruvian are quoted at 79 to 80½. Russian scrip is still heavy at 1½ to 2½ premium.

The Share Market has been very heavy. All the leading lines are quoted at a serious decline from last week's prices. Yesterday the London and North Western Shares were done as low as 105, and Great Westerns receded to 57½. There is a difference of opinion in regard to the cause of this decline, some attributing it to the character of the meetings, others to the want of purchasers, and others, again, merely to sympathy with the Consol market. For ourselves, we are inclined to attribute it altogether to the latter two causes, for a decline is noticed where the character of the half-

yearly meetings were decidedly favourable, as in the case of the North Western line. If anything should bring purchasers we should think it would be a fair dividend which left a good balance to carry on operations, but the public seem too suspicious even to speculate on such a favourable basis. We are at a loss to tell, under such circumstances, what inducement will be considered sufficient to bring capitalists into the market as *bona fide* purchasers. The Produce Markets have been firmer, and more business has been done.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

The highest prices are given.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols.....	95	Brasil	89½
Do. Account ..	95	Equador	3
3 per Cent. Reduced	95½	Dutch 2½ per cent.	54½
2½ New	97½	French 5 per cent.	—
Long Annuities ..	94	Guatemala	18½
Bank Stock	—	Mexican 5 per cent. new	29
India Stock	—	Portuguese	33
Exchequer Bills—	—	Russian	110
June	57 pm.	Spanish 5 per cent.	18½
India Bonds	88 pm.	Ditto 3 per cent.	86½
		Ditto Passive	81

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, Feb. 23.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 20, for the week ending on Saturday, the 16th day of Feb., 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	30,310,035
Government Debt ..	11,015,100
Other Securities ..	2,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	16,082,936
Silver Bullion	377,077
	£30,310,035

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000
Reserve	3,317,501
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	7,087,030
Other Deposits	9,948,781
Seven-day and other Bills	1,153,384
	£35,959,696

Dated the 31st day of Feb., 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

BELPIN, JOHN, Beaumont-street, St. Marylebone, coach-maker, March 5, April 5: solicitors, Messrs. Bickells, Connaught-terrace, Edgeware-road.

CARTAN, CHARLES JOSEPH, Thornton-row, Greenwich, solicitor, March 12, 26: solicitor, Mr. Nias, Copthall-court.

KEMP, FRANCIS, Colchester, carpenter, March 4, April 8: solicitors, Mr. Bull, Ely-place; and Mr. Abel, Colchester.

MOULD, NICHOLAS, Warwick-street, Woolwich, victualler, March 12, April 11: solicitor, Mr. Butler, Tooley-street.

DUNN, THOMAS, Hastings, builder, March 5, April 4: solicitors, Messrs. Robinson and Haynes, Orchard-street, Portman-square.

CATONFOLD, EZECHIAH RICHARD, Upper Lisson-street, cheesemonger, March 1, April 5: solicitors, Messrs. Pain and Hatherly, Gresham-street.

BLIKETHOLM, THOMAS BRISTON (and not Keightholme, as advertised in last Tuesday's Gazette), Scarborough, painter, March 5, 26: solicitors, Messrs. Robinson and Green, Leeds.

MARGUARD, NICHOLAS, Treforest, Glamorganshire, draper, March 5, April 3: solicitors, Lovibond and Carslake, Bridge-water.

TOLLAND, THOMAS, Ashburton, limeburner, March 6, April 2: solicitors, Mr. Francis, Newton Busheil; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

FRANK, FREDERICK, Honiton, linen-draper, March 6, April 3: solicitors, Messrs. Cornish and Parnell, Bristol; and Mr. Wroford, Exeter.

HANLEY, WILLIAM, Crookerswell, Devonshire, victualler, March 6, April 3: solicitors, Mr. Hawkes, Okehampton; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

ARFORD, BENJAMIN, Devonport, victualler, March 14, April 16: solicitors, Messrs. Lawton and Co., Old Fish-street; and Messrs. Griffith and O'Brien, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

LODGE, WILLIAM, Preston, innkeeper, March 6, 26: solicitors, Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CHRISTIE, J. and W., Fowles Weaver, Perthshire, ship merchants, March 2, 23.

NISBET, Edinburgh, Secher, Feb. 26, March 10.

DIVIDENDS.

Moody, High-street, Aldgate, tailor, second and final div. of 11d.; Feb. 23, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Groom's, Abchurch-lane—Lewer, Upper Norton-street, Vintner-square, apothecary, first and final div. of 7s. 11d.; Feb. 23, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Groom's, Abchurch-lane—Partridge and Jordan, Luton, wine merchants, second div. of 1s. 3d., second and final div. of 8d. on the separate estate of Partridge; Feb. 23, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Groom's, Abchurch-lane.

Tuesday, Feb. 26.

BANKRUPTS.

CARTAN, JOSEPH CHARLES, Greenwich, and Shooter's-hill, solicitor, March 12: solicitor, Mr. Nias, Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.

CHOPPIN, LOUIS BERNARD, Bristol and Bath, bookseller, March 13, April 9: solicitors, Mr. Strangways, Gray's-inn; and Messrs. Wittington and Gribble, Bristol.

CROSS, JOHN BERNARD, Cornhill, watchmaker, March 16, April 12: solicitor, Mr. Kemp, Covent-garden.

MATTHEWS, GEORGE, Monmouth, pianoforte seller, March 12, April 9: solicitors, Mr. Nichols, Monmouth; and Messrs. Bovan, Bristol.

STANLEY, JAMES, Saint Luke's, carpenter, March 13, April 16: solicitors, Messrs. Hine and Robinson, Charterhouse-square.

WHERRY, ABRAHAM, Buckingham, cabinet-maker, March 12, April 11: solicitor, Mr. Risley, Westbury-square.

WOODCOCK, JOHN DALE, Leeds, calenderer, March 12, April 9: solicitor, Mr. Middleton, Leeds.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BALLANTINE, ARCHIBALD, Manselburgh, grocer, March 4 and 22.

FERRIS, REV. WILLIAM, Anstruther Easter, Fifeshire, dealer in shares, February 26, and March 26.

HOWIE, JAMES, Glasgow, funeral undertaker, March 2 and 23.

REDDIE, JAMES CAMPBELL, Edinburgh, insurance broker, March 6 and 26.

SMITH, JOHN, Elgin, builder, March 26 and 26.

1

PARALYSIS.

MR. HALSE, the MEDICAL GALVANIST,
of 23, Brunswick-square, London, earnestly recommends invalids and gentlemen of the medical profession to peruse the following. It cannot but surprise them, and prove to them the all but miraculous powers of Galvanism, when applied in a scientific manner, and with an efficient apparatus.

The following case is, perhaps, as remarkable as one as could be selected, as showing the powers of Galvanism, after every medicine, and almost every medical practitioner in Devonshire, had been tried in vain; and as the truth of it is witnessed by a distinguished clergyman of the Established Church, there can, one would suppose, be no doubt in any one's mind as to its accuracy. When the patient was brought to Mr. H., his wife told him that she could not believe that Galvanism or anything else could possibly restore him; for his complaint had been standing so long, and he was in such a weak state, that it would be presumptuous to expect any benefit, particularly as he had tried the most celebrated physicians in Devonshire, and still daily continued to get worse. She also stated that her friends blamed her very much for removing him from his home; but she could not help it! Her husband had heard of such extraordinary cures made by Mr. H. in his complaint, that galvanized he would be, in spite of everything. His medical man was quite angry with him for thinking of such a thing; and when his friends were carrying him from his house to the carriage, every one appeared to be convinced that they should never see him alive any more. But, notwithstanding all the difficulties he had to contend with, he was determined, and insisted upon being galvanized. The following letter, which he sent to the Editor of the *Exeter Flying Post*, will prove the result:—

UGHT NOT GALVANISM TO BE MORE GENERALLY RESORTED TO?

A Letter to the Editor of the *Flying Post*, by one who has derived immense benefit from the power of the Galvanic Apparatus.

"Mr. Editor.—A few weeks since, I noticed a paragraph by you, stating that Galvanism ought to be more generally employed. I beg to state, that I am precisely of the same opinion, for I have witnessed its astonishing effects in a number of cases, and its power has been tried practically upon myself, with the happiest results. In that paragraph, I was most happy to find favourable mention of Mr. Halse's name. All that you have said of him, and even more, is his due; indeed, as for myself, I have cause to bless the day that I first placed myself under his care. Now, Sir, my case was a most deplorable one, for I had not the least use of either arm or leg—they hung about me like as if they did not belong to me, and the strength of my legs was insufficient to support the weight of my body. Of course I could not stand; and if you had offered me a thousand guineas to move either hand but one inch from the place where it might have been placed, I could not have done it: not the least command had I over my limbs. My complaint was caused by a blow in the back. Well, as before stated, I placed myself under Mr. Halse's galvanic treatment. I had been led to believe, that it was a dreadful operation to go through; but I was agreeably surprised that there was no unpleasantness at all about it, not even enough to make a child cry, so beautifully does Mr. Halse manage his battery. In three days, Sir, I could stand upon my legs, and, in one week, I could walk about the house: at the same time, I also partially recovered the use of my arms, and, in six weeks, I could walk several miles in a day, without the least assistance. Well might you ask, 'Ought not Galvanism to be much resorted to?' After what I have seen and experienced, I do consider it a shame that a portion of the medical profession should decline to recommend their patients to try the powers of galvanism. Perhaps I need not state, that I had had the advice of the most celebrated physicians in this country; but all the medicines which were tried did me little or no good. I believe Mr. Halse was as much surprised as myself and friend when, at the expiration of a week, he saw that I could walk, for he did not lead me to believe that there would be such a rapid improvement. I will state that invalids are very much to blame if they do not give Galvanism a trial; for if it does no good it is impossible it can do any harm. But there is every probability of its doing good; for during the time I was under Mr. Halse's care, I noticed its happy effects in a variety of cases, particularly sciatica, rheumatism, asthma, and nervousness; indeed, all his patients were rapidly regaining their health. I only regret that I had not applied to him earlier; I should have been many scores of pounds in pocket had I done so."

New London Inn, Doddbrooks, Kingsbridge.
"Witness to the truth of the above.—C. G. Owen, Rector of Doddbrooks, near Kingsbridge, Devon."

Mr. Halse recommends paralytic patients residing in the country to purchase one of his Ten Guinea Portable Apparatus; as, with his instructions, they will be enabled to apply the Galvanism themselves, without the least pain, and fully as effective as he could at his own residence.

Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. HALSE, of 23, Brunswick-square, London, for his Pamphlet on MEDICAL GALVANISM, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage-stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of sciatica, rheumatism, sciatica, tic-douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headache, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensations; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, One Guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

TOOTH-ACHE PERMANENTLY CURED.

Price 1s. per Packet.

BRANDE'S ENAMEL for FILLING
DECAYING TEETH and rendering them sound and Painless, has, from its unquestionable excellence, obtained great popularity at home and abroad. Its curative agency is based upon a true theory of the cause of Tooth-ache, and hence its great success. By most other remedies it is sought to kill the nerve, and so stop the pain. But to destroy the nerve is itself a very painful operation, and often leads to very sad consequences, for the tooth then becomes a dead substance in a living jaw, and produces the same amount of inflammation and pain as would result from any other foreign body embedded in a living organ. BRANDE'S ENAMEL does not destroy the nerve, but by restoring the Shell of the Tooth, completely protects the nerve from cold, heat, or chemical or other agency by which pain is caused. By following the directions instant ease is obtained, and a lasting cure follows. Full instructions accompany every packet.

TESTIMONIAL FROM A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

Bloomfield Retreat, Dublin,
15th. mo., 11th, 1848.

RESPECTED FRIEND.—As a duty I owe to my-self and the suffering, allow me to bear this unsolicited testimony to the truthfulness of the advertisement of the astonishing efficacy of Brande's Enamel. I have tried it with entire success, ease, and comfort—and can fully recommend it to the notice of the public.

Thy friend,
JOHN MOSS,
Superintendent.

To J. Willis.

London: Manufactured only by JOHN WILLIS, 24, East Temple-chambers, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, removed from 4 Bell's-buildings, Salisbury-square. Wholesale by all the large Medical Houses.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining it, enclose thirteen stamps to JOHN WILLIS (as above) and you will ensure the genuine article by return of post. Twenty authentic Testimonials, with full directions for use, accompany each packet, which contains enough Enamel to fill several Teeth. Observe that the name of "John Willis" is on every packet.

AGENTS WANTED.

DO YOU SUFFER WITH COUGH,

Bronchitis, Influenza, or Asthma? If so, send for a Packet of BRANDE'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE. Sold by Chemists every where at 1s. 1d. per packet, post free 1s. 3d., and 2s. 9d. per box, post free 4s.

Since the introduction of this medicine, it has been rapidly supplanting all other preparations administered for pulmonary disorders.

Excruciating Cough, Shortness of Breath, and Hoarseness, cured by Brande's Sedative, after all the medical men in the neighbourhood had failed:—

"Portfield, near Haverfordwest, Feb. 15th, 1848.
"GENTLEMEN.—Having been a great sufferer for upwards of three years, with an oppression of the chest, and an excruciating cough and pain in my stomach, which at times nearly deprived me of my breath, I was induced (after having tried all the doctors in this neighbourhood) to send to your agent at Haverfordwest for a packet of Brande's Bronchial Sedative, and, to my great astonishment, I found relief in less than two days; I was enabled to breathe with perfect ease, and my voice, which was before hoarse and husky, became quite clear. I then sent for another packet, and I have now, thank God! got rid of my cough, and am perfectly restored to my former health. You are at perfect liberty to make use of this information in any way you may think proper."

"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,
"DAVID GOODRIDGE."

London: Manufactured only by JOHN WILLIS, 24, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, removed from 4, Bell's-buildings, Salisbury-square. Wholesale by all the large Medicine Houses.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining it, enclose fifteen stamps to JOHN WILLIS (as above), and you will ensure the genuine article by return of post. Twenty authentic Testimonials, with full directions for use, accompany each packet. Observe that the name of "John Willis" is on every packet.

AGENTS WANTED.

GALVANIC ELECTRICITY.

NO. I.

TO INVALIDS, and all unprejudiced persons,

the following extracts, from Mr. Wesley's works, are respectfully submitted. I have for many years contended that the ELECTRIC or GALVANIC FLUID is itself identical with the NERVOUS FLUID, and that a deficiency, or an irregular distribution of it to the various parts of the system, is the cause of most diseases. Since the Cholera has again made its appearance amongst us, medical writers have discovered the same thing, and have stated, that at those times when the Cholera is most prevalent, the atmosphere will be found to be deficient of this Electric Fluid, and that those whose bodies have not a full supply of it, are most likely to fall victims to the disease; whilst, on the contrary, those whose bodies are saturated with it, escape the ravages of the disease. We also find Dr. Arnott, in his "Elements of Physics," page 523, stating, "And Galvanism can excite the muscles to their usual actions; it affects the secretions and the digestive functions, and the breathing in Asthma." This looks well—it proves there are some men amongst the profession who are willing to admit that Electricity or Galvanism is the principle of Vitality. Well, all that the medical men now say about the Electric Fluid, either as to the diminution of it as being the cause of Cholera (and, as a necessary consequence, the abundance of it being a preventive of Cholera), or its power of assisting the vital functions, was stated by myself more than ten years since, and (unknown to myself until recently) by Mr. Wesley, nearly a hundred years since, as the following extracts will prove.

Read them, ye medical Solons, and see if Mr. Wesley has not told you all that you are now telling the world as regards this universal agent! We must not, however, expect the generality of the Medical Profession to recommend this simple agent, for the drug system, although it is to their patients' Death, is to them Life. In the words of Mr. Wesley, we cannot expect it "till the Gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their neighbours than their own." It would, indeed, be folly to look forward to the arrival of such a time.

WILLIAM HOOPER HALSE,
Professor of Medical Galvanism,
23, Brunswick-square, London.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. WESLEY'S WORKS ON THE SUBJECT OF ELECTRICITY.

2nd Edition, 8vo, Vol. II., page 73. Under date Friday, Nov. 16, 1747, he says in his Journal:—"I went with two or three friends to see what are called the Electrical Experiments. How must these also confound those poor half-thinkers, who will believe nothing but what they can comprehend! Who can comprehend how fire lives in water, and passes through it more freely than through air! How flame issues out of my finger—real flames, such as sets fire to spirits of wine! How these and many more as strange phenomena arise from the turning round a glass globe! It is all mystery! If haply by any means God may hide pride from man!"

Vol. II., page 379. Journal, Feb. 29, 1756:—"I advised one who had been troubled many years with a stubborn paralytic disorder, to try a new remedy. Accordingly, she was electrified, and found immediate help. By the same means, I have known two persons cured of an inveterate pain in the stomach, and another of pain in his side, which he had ever since he was a child."

Vol. II., page 388. Journal, Nov. 9, 1765:—"Having procured an apparatus on purpose, I ordered several persons to be electrified, who were ill of various disorders; some of whom found an immediate, some a gradual cure. From this time I appointed, first some hours in every week, and afterwards an hour in every day, wherein any that desired it, might try the virtue of this surprising medicine. Two or three years after our patients were so numerous that we were obliged to divide them: so part were electrified in Southwark, part at the Foundry, others near St. Paul's, and the rest near the Seven Dials. The same method we have taken ever since; and, to this day, while hundreds, perhaps thousands, have received unspeakable good, I have not known one man, woman, or child, who has received any hurt thereby. So that when I hear any talk of the danger of being electrified (especially if they are medical men who talk so), I cannot but impute it to great want either of sense or honesty."

Vol. III., page 311. Journal, Monday, Feb. 4, 1768:—"At my leisure hours this week, I read Dr. Priestley's ingenious book on Electricity. He seems to have accurately collected and well digested all that is known on that curious subject. But how little is that all! Indeed the use of it we know; at least in some good degree. We know it is a thousand medicines in one. In particular, that it is the most efficacious medicine, in nervous disorders of every kind, which has ever yet been discovered. But if we aim at theory, we know nothing. We are soon

"Lost and bewildered in the fruitless search."

Vol. XIV., 256.—Preface to a Pamphlet published by Mr. Wesley in 1760, 18mo, Pp. 72, entitled, "The Desideratum; or, Electricity made Plain and Useful." By a Lover of Mankind and of Common Sense.

"In the following treatise, I have endeavoured to comprise the sum of what has been hitherto published. I am not greatly concerned for the philosophical part, whether it stand or fall. I am much more concerned for the physical part, knowing of how great importance this is; how much sickness and pain may be prevented or removed, and how many lives saved, by this unopposed remedy. And yet with what vehemence has it been opposed! Sometimes by treating it with contempt, as if it were of little or no use; sometimes by arguments, such as they were, and sometimes by such cautious against its ill effects, as made thousands afraid to meddle with it. But so it has failed with almost all the simple remedies which have been offered to the world for many years. . . . And

yet it is absolutely certain, that in many, very many cases, it seldom or never fails. . . . And yet there is something peculiarly unaccountable with regard to its operation. In some cases, where there was no hope of help, it will succeed beyond all expectation; in others, where we had the greatest hope, it will have no effect at all. Again, in some experiments, it helps at the very first, and promises a speedy cure; but presently the good effect ceases, and the patient is as he was before. On the contrary, in others it has no effect at first; it does no good; perhaps seems to do hurt. Yet all this time it is striking at the root of the disease, which, in a while, it totally removes. Frequent instances of the former we have in paralytics, of the latter in rheumatic cases. But still one may, upon the whole, pronounce it the 'Desideratum,' the general and rarely failing remedy in nervous cases of every kind (palsies excepted), as well as in many others. Perhaps, if the nerves are really perforated (as is now generally supposed), the electric ether is the only fluid in the universe which is fine enough to move through them. And what, if the nervous juice itself be a fluid of this kind? If so, it is no wonder that it has always eluded the search of the most accurate naturalists. Be this as it may, Mr. Lovell is of opinion, 'the electrical method of treating disorders cannot be expected to arrive at any considerable degree of perfection, till administered and applied by the gentlemen of the Faculty.' Nay, then, *quanta de spe decidi!* All my hopes are at an end. For when will it be administered and applied by them! Truly, *ad Græcos calendas.* Not till the gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their neighbours than their own. Therefore, without waiting for what probably never will be, and what, indeed, we have no reason to expect, let men of sense do the best they can for themselves, as well as for their poor, sick, helpless neighbours. . . . And, if a few of these lovers of mankind, who have some little knowledge of the animal economy, would only be diligent in making experiments, and setting down the more remarkable of them, in order to communicate them to one another, that each might profit by the other's labour; I doubt not but more nervous disorders would be cured in one year by this single remedy, than the whole English Materia Medica will cure by the end of the century. . . .

"I only wish some one who has more leisure and ability than have, would consider it more deeply, and write a full practical treatise on Electricity, which might be a blessing to many generations."

(To be continued next week.)

Invalids may receive Mr. Halse's Pamphlet on "Medical Galvanism" free, by forwarding him two stamps for the postage of it. His address is 23, Brunswick-square, London.

A GREAT BLESSING.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY AND PERMANENTLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!!

DR. DE ROOS' amazing success in the treatment of every variety of RUPTURE is ample proof of the unfailing efficacy of this remedy. Thousands in all parts of the world are availing themselves of his discovery, which must ere long entirely banish a complaint hitherto so prevalent. All persons so afflicted should, without delay, write, or pay a visit to Dr. De Roos, who may be consulted daily from 10 till 1, and 4 till 6, Sunday excepted.

This remedy is perfectly free from danger, pain, or inconvenience, may be used without confinement, is applicable to male and female, of any age, and will be sent (free) with full instructions, &c. &c., rendering failure impossible, on receipt of 6s. 6d. in cash, or by Post-office order, payable at the Holborn-office. A great number of trusses have been left behind by persons cured, as trophies of the immense success of this remedy, which will be readily given to any one requiring them after a trial of it.

Letters of inquiry should contain two postage stamps. In every case a cure is guaranteed.
Address, Dr. Walter de Roos, 1, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London.

YOURSELF!

WHAT YOU ARE,

AND

WHAT YOU ARE FIT FOR.

GRAPHIOLOGY.—Professor Billson continues, with the greatest success, to describe the peculiar mental character and capabilities of individuals, from a Graphiographical examination of their Handwriting. If you are curious, anxious, or doubtful, on the knowledge of yourself or friends, address a note, or other specimen of writing—mentioning sex and age, or supposed age, of the writer—and enclosing 13 uncut Postage Stamps, to Mr. ELLISON, 151, STRAND, LONDON, and you will receive a graphio, minute, and interesting-written delineation of what the writer really is, in disposition, temper, and mental character, and for what pursuits qualified.

GRAPHIOLOGY!

YOUR CHARACTER SEEN IN YOUR HANDWRITING.

"Man, know thyself—all wisdom centres here."—Young

"The proper study of mankind is man."—Pope.

THE extraordinary success MISS DEAN

has met with in delineating the characters of individuals from their handwriting, induces her (through the medium of the public press) to diffuse more widely the benefits of this interesting discovery. All persons wishing to "know themselves," or their friends, must send a specimen of the writing, stating sex and age, or supposed age of the writer, to Miss Dean, 108, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, London (enclosing 13 Postage-stamps), and they will receive a written description of their mental and moral qualities, virtues, and failings, &c., and many things hitherto unsuspected, calculated to guide them through life.

The following testimonials are selected from many hundreds:—

"I must admit that your system is correct, as your statement agrees perfectly with the phenological development of an eminent doctor."—Rev. J. Harris, York.

"Your delineation is singularly correct. Receive my best thanks for it."—Miss KIN, Hampstead-road.

A BOON TO THE AFFLICTED!!

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY AND PERMANENTLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!!

EVERY SUFFERER FROM RUPTURE

(Single or Double, and of every variety) is earnestly invited to write, or pay Dr. BARKER a visit, as in every case he guarantees them a perfect cure.

During an extensive practice his remedy has been entirely successful, as the hundreds of Testimonials he has received from patients, and many eminent members of the medical profession, amply prove. It is applicable to both sexes, old and young; easy and painless in use, and most certain in effect.

The remedy is sent post-free on receipt of 6s. by post-office order, or cash, by Dr. Alfred Barker, 108, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury-square, London, where he may be consulted daily from 10 till 1, mornings; 4 till 6, evenings (Sundays excepted).

Post-office Orders must be made payable at the Bloomsbury Post-office.
Hundreds of testimonials and trusses have been left behind by persons cured, as trophies of the immense success of this remedy, which Dr. Barker will willingly give to any requiring them after a trial of it.
In every case a cure is guaranteed.

THE Scottish Provident Institution

FOR

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE BY MODERATE PREMIUMS.

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

EDINBURGH: 14, St. Andrew-square.

GLASGOW: 67, St. Vincent-street.

LONDON: 12, Moorgate-street.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CONTRIBUTORS of this Society was held in the WATERLOO ROOMS, EDINBURGH, on WEDNESDAY the 20th FEBRUARY.

On the motion of GEORGE TURNBULL, Esq., of Abbey St. Bathans, JOHN PARKER, Esq., the Senior Director, was called to the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN said—I beg to thank you for the honour you have now conferred on me in calling me to preside on occasion of this, the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Scottish Provident Institution, an honour I feel to be enhanced, when I consider the able and influential men who have preceded me in this chair, as well as the rising importance of the Institution itself.

At the same time, I cannot forget that I owe my occupancy of this chair to a very painful event which has happened during the last year. I need not say that I refer to the lamented death of Mr. Jamieson. He was one of the original Directors of this Society, and one who in his day rendered most valuable services, not only to us, but to many of the other useful and benevolent institutions in this city.

It does not fall within my province to speak in detail on the subjects contained in the Report of the Directors, which is shortly to be submitted for your approval. But I may be permitted in anticipation to congratulate you on the very favourable results which are there brought out. The remarkable prosperity and success which are shown to have attended this Society during the past year, I am disposed and feel warranted to attribute, not altogether to the fact of the distinctive principles of our Institution having become more widely known, nor to the fact that we are now a Corporation, under the high sanction and powers conferred by an Act of the Legislature, but very much also to the wise and liberal resolutions to which the Contributors came at their last Annual Meeting, for abrogating certain laws respecting forfeitures as they then stood on the Statute Book or Deed of Constitution of the Society, and substituting others, the object and aim of which, as was well stated in the able observations of the Chairman of that Meeting, was "to make certain, as far as we possibly can, that the provision expected by an assurer will be enjoyed by his family on his death."

I shall not longer detain you from the Report of the year's proceedings, which I now request my friend Mr. Johnston to lay before you.

Mr. ALEXANDER KEITH JOHNSTON said—As Convener of Committee it is my very agreeable duty to lay before you the report of last year's proceedings, a statement in all respects, I believe, the most favourable ever submitted to a meeting of this Society. It refers to a period when the country was only emerging from a state of deep commercial distress, and in the course of which we were visited by an appalling epidemic; yet it shows an amount of business greater than that of any previous year,—exceeding by fully one-third that of 1848; and while the amount of new business is so great, the amount of claims from deaths during the year has been unusually small.

It was not altogether without anxiety that your Directors entered on the duties of the year; and now that we have passed so favourably over so very trying a crisis, it may be interesting to remind you that on the occasion when cholera first made its appearance amongst us, only seventeen years ago, so great an alarm was excited that, in this very City, meetings were held at which the propriety of closing the Offices during its continuance was seriously considered; and yet the amount of mortality from cholera during 1849 greatly exceeded that of 1832.

Hitherto the career of the Scottish Provident Institution has been one of unvarying success; every succeeding Report has been but an echo of that which preceded it, and its prosperity has been the theme of all. We are now only in the twelfth year of our existence, and have already issued more than Four THOUSAND Policies, a number very much beyond that of any other Scottish Office at a corresponding period of its establishment.

Having been led, while inquiring into the effects of the epidemic of 1832, to refer to the Report for that year, of the great Parent Institution in Scotland, to whose labours all succeeding societies owe so much, I was struck by observing that while, in their seventeenth year, the number of Policies was less than half of what we already possess, the amount of their ascertained mortality in the year was nearly as great, being thus in the ratio of nearly two to one as compared with ours. This fact strikingly evinces the progress and prosperity of our own Institution.

As a Member of the Agency Committee, it affords me much pleasure to report that our different Agencies continue in a state of efficiency, and that many of them are making satisfactory progress. During the year a change in the management of our London Branch became necessary by the resignation of our former Secretary. His place has been supplied by a gentleman who has a thorough knowledge of our principles, having been for several years more or less intimately connected with our own Establishment. The amount of business done in London during 1849 has exceeded that of either of the two previous years.

It is probable that a considerable portion of our increased business may be due to the ravages of cholera having led men to consider the advantages of life assurance; and the Directors think they are able to trace the effect of this, especially in the

case of Glasgow. So far, this is a source of satisfaction; but while so many have availed themselves of these advantages, we know of numbers who have lost them through procrastination. Instances of this kind are constantly brought before us. Some wait the return of a birth-day, which they are destined never to see; others form good resolutions, but are overtaken by disease before they can put them in practice. A striking example of this occurred in Liverpool, where one person went the length of signing his proposal, but having indulged in a little farther delay in following out the necessary steps, was cut off by the prevailing disease before the transaction was completed. A counterpart to this occurred in our own city, in the case of one who, from the robust state of his health, seemed likely to be a contributor to our funds for many years, but who met his death the very day succeeding that on which his policy was signed, by an accident which no one could have foreseen. In this case, unlike the other, his family reaped the full benefit of the assurance.

While your Directors have endeavoured to carry on the established business of the institution with unabated energy, they have been anxious, also, to accommodate some of its details to the exigencies of the times, and this with special reference to those who visit distant lands. In the early days of Life Assurance little calculation was necessary for the few who ventured beyond the boundaries of Europe, and all that the then existing Offices seemed to care for was, that those who did so should pay well for their temerity. But in these days of excessive locomotion, when Europe is found to be too circumscribed even for the summer tourist, when travellers think no more of a visit to the Dead Sea, or a ramble in the Desert, than their forefathers did of a visit to London, or a voyage to Fife, it is obvious that such restrictions cannot much longer be submitted to, and that it becomes necessary to prepare for all kinds of legitimate risks. With this view a Committee, of which I am myself convener, has been appointed to ascertain, in as far as possible, the value of life in extra-European countries—the influence of climate on longevity—and the localities visited by prevalent or periodic disease; for, notwithstanding all that has been done, it appears to me that very much still remains to be accomplished in this important branch of inquiry. I have little doubt that the result of the investigation will be such as, while it secures the undiminished safety of the Society, will give greater freedom to those of our number who, from business or pleasure, may find it necessary to overstep the usually prescribed geographical limits. It will be remembered that, in so far as invalids are concerned, that the proposed change of climate would be beneficial.

In conclusion, I have no doubt that the same prosperity which we have hitherto enjoyed will long continue to attend us, for it is the natural result of the principles on which our Society is based; and our present low rate of mortality affords a satisfactory evidence of the safety of our calculations. But while we continue to draw premiums from many who, according to the stern laws of the tables, ought long ere now, to have been absolved from this duty, it may be well to warn you that this state of matters cannot continue indefinitely; that mortality forms a necessary ingredient in our calculations, and that, at some future period, we must be prepared for a much greater demand on our funds.

REPORT BY THE DIRECTORS.

During the past year the Directors have accepted 567 Proposals, the sums thereby assured amounting to £238,219 2s., and the Yearly Premiums to £7,212 15s. 11d. These sums show a very considerable increase as compared with the business of any previous year—the excess over last year being fully one-third. A Tabular View of the new assurances effected in each of the last seven years is appended to this Report, to which the Directors refer with much satisfaction, as indicative of the steady and healthy progress of the Society; and they would here again repeat, that their present position has been attained without the expenditure of any part of the funds in commission to third parties, not the accredited agents of the Institution.

At the 31st of December last, the subsisting assurances amounted to £1,444,034 3s. The fund arising from accumulated Premiums at the same date was £134,406 1s. 1d., and the yearly income, from Premiums alone, was £40,820 1s. 11d.

The Directors have peculiar satisfaction in reporting the experience of the year in regard to mortality.

Those who have been long conversant with the subject of Life Assurance will remember the deep anxiety which was caused by the outbreak of cholera in 1832. The alarm proved in a great measure groundless, the mortality among persons assured not having much exceeded that of ordinary years. Since that period Life Assurance has extended its sphere in an extraordinary degree, embracing a class of society which has been thought more likely to be exposed to the ravages of such a disease than the higher classes, to which it had formerly been chiefly confined. It was, therefore, with considerable interest that the Directors, in common, they doubt not, with all concerned in the prosperity of such Institutions, looked forward to the effects of a visitation which has proved greatly more fatal than that of 1832, and the result is favourable to an extent they could not have anticipated.

During the past year, thirty-one deaths have occurred, the amount of claims being £15,354 11s. That a mortality of about one per cent. only should have occurred in a Society many of whose members are now far advanced in life, furnishes ground

of increased confidence in the security of calculations based upon observations of mortality, when applied to numbers sufficiently large to afford a proper average.

The Directors have to report that a vacancy has occurred in their number since last meeting, by the lamented death of Mr. Alexander Jamieson, who at the time occupied the position of their Chairman, and they would embrace this opportunity of publicly recording their deep sense of the loss which the Institution has sustained. Mr. Kerr, who was appointed in his place, in terms of the laws, is one of the three Directors who retire at this time.

PROGRESSIVE VIEW OF THE SOCIETY'S BUSINESS DURING THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.

In year ending 31st December.	Number of New Policies opened.	Amount of New Assurances.	Annual Premiums on these.
1843	256	£126,530	£3348
1844	310	137,645	3510
1845	348	153,437	4090
1846	416	191,102	5183
1847	472	213,632	6171
1848	430	172,714	5199
1849	567	238,219	7212

The Report by the Auditors, and relatives States, having been read by the Manager,

Mr. CHARLES LAWSON, Seedsman, moved the approval of the Report. After having referred to the various subjects noticed in it, Mr. Lawson remarked that had the business been even greatly less prosperous, during a year of so much adversity, they would still have had cause of thankfulness; but with a state of affairs in all respects outstripping any former year, whether as regarded the amount of new business, or the favourable results in respect of mortality, they had good reason to congratulate themselves on the zeal and prudence with which their affairs were conducted.

The motion was seconded by Mr. ALEXANDER GIFFORD, S.S.C., and unanimously approved of.

Mr. HALL MAXWELL, of Dargavel, Secretary to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, moved that the thanks of the contributors be given to the Directors. He considered the Report which had been presented to-day, the best evidence of the intelligence and care with which they had conducted their affairs. He rejoiced to learn that it was in the view of the Directors to take the initiative in adapting the conditions of Life Assurance to the requirements of those who have occasion to travel beyond the bounds of Europe—a matter now of such every-day occurrence—and he thought it fortunate that the investigation for this purpose was to be under the superintendence of a person so eminently qualified as her Majesty's Geographer.

Mr. THOMAS NELSON, jun., publisher, seconded the motion, which was cordially agreed to.

Thanks were voted to the Local Boards, to the Auditors and Trustees, and to the Office-Bearers; and the management having been constituted for the ensuing year, the meeting separated, after a vote of thanks to their Chairman.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

TRUSTEES.

The Right Hon. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, of Kirkhill, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh.
CHARLES COWAN, Esq., M.P.
JOHN MASTERMAN, jun., Esq., banker, London.
WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Esq., of Tillichewan.
JAMES PEDDIE, Esq., W.S.

DIRECTORS.

JOHN HUNTER, Esq., Auditor of the Court of Session.
ALEXANDER KEITH JOHNSTON, Esq., Geographer to the Queen.
WILLIAM OLIPHANT, Esq., Publisher.
WILLIAM FRASER, Esq., W.S.
ARCHD. THOMSON, Esq., Merchant.
CHARLES BLACK, Esq., Publisher.
ROBERT HUNTER, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Buteshire.
FRANCIS RICHARDSON, Esq., Merchant.
JAS. CATHCART, Esq., Merchant, Leith.
JOHN CADELL, Esq., of Tranent.
DAVID HECTOR, Esq., Advocate.
CHARLES WILLIAM ANDERSON, Esq., Merchant, Leith.
CHARLES MORTON, Esq., W.S.
DONALD SMITH PEDDIE, Esq., Accountant.
HUGH REDPATH, Esq., Merchant.

Medical Officers.

Sir GEORGE BALLINGALL, Professor of Military Surgery.
Dr. JAMES DUNCAN, No. 12, Heriot-row.

Bankers—THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

Manager—JAMES WATSON | Secretary—JOHN WATSON.

HEAD OFFICE—14, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

LONDON BRANCH:

Agent and Secretary.

GEORGE GRANT.

Medical Officer.

Dr. ROBERT DICK, 42, Manchester-street.

Bankers.

Messrs. MASTERMAN, PETTERS, and Co., Nicholas-lane.

OFFICES: 12, MOORGATE-STREET.